Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-95-218
Monday
13 November 1995

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-95-218 *13 November 1995*

CONTENTS

NOTICE: An * indicates material that may not be disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat on Rabin's Murder, U.S. Congress Decision *[MENA]* 1
'Arafat: Peres To Follow Rabin in Pursuing Peace *[Jericho VOP]* 1
'Arafat Denies Report of Imminent Meeting With Peres *[MENA]* 1
Israeli Approval of Building in Jerusalem Denounced *[Jericho VOP]* 2
'Arafat, UK's Rifkind Hold News Conference *[Jericho VOP]* 2
'Arafat Chairs PLO Executive Committee Meeting *[MENA]* 2
Committee Resumes Meetings *[MENA]* 3
PNC Secretary Comments on Meetings *[MENA]* 3
'Arafat Forms Committee To Take Control of Janin *[Jericho VOP]* 3
Authority Assumes Some Powers in Janin *[Jericho VOP]* 4
Policemen Enter Janin; Celebration Held *[Jericho VOP]* 4
'Arafat: No Meeting With Hamas During Cairo Visit *[MENA]* 4
Hamas To Participate in Jan Elections *[AFP]* 4
'Arafat Addresses Fatah Conference on Elections *[Jericho VOP]* 5
'Arafat Obtains First Voter Card; 1.2 Million To Register *[Jericho VOP]* 5

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Nahnah Views Presidential Elections *[MENA]* 6
Expatriates Vote Amid 'Chaos' at Paris Consulate *[Algiers Radio]* 6
Arab League, OAU Election Observers Arrive *[Algiers TV]* 6
Interior Ministry Tightens Security for Elections *[Algiers Radio]* 6
Newspapers Report Car Bomb Explosion; 5 Killed *[Rome Teletext]* 7
Assassination Attempt on French Nuns Reported 7
Nun Dies of Injuries *[Algiers Radio]* 7
Interior Minister Condemns Attack *[Algiers Radio]* 7
Pope, Chirac Send Condolences to Family *[Paris International]* 7
Security Services Conduct Operations 7
Kill 5-Man 'Terrorist' Group *[Algiers TV]* 7
Kill 14 'Terrorists' Between 6-8 Nov *[Algiers TV]* 7
Kill 24 'Terrorists' *[Algiers Radio]* 8

Egypt

Peace, 'Fanaticism' After Rabin Death Viewed *[Cairo Radio]* 8
Musa: Peres 'Capable' of Directing Peace Process *[AFP]* 9
Islamic Group Statement Threatens Foreigners *[AFP]* 9
Statement Reiterates Threat *[AFP]* 10
Further on Threats, Terrorism, Security 10
Embassy Downplays Threats *[MENA]* 10
Security Agencies 'In Control' *[MENA]* 11
Security Alert to Plans *[MENA]* 11

Intelligence Seizes Sudanese Arms, 'Terrorist' *[MENA]* 11
Further on Seizure *[AFP]* 12
'Bright Star 95' Joint Maneuvers Begin *[MENA]* 13
Further on 1st Phase *[MENA]* 13
Second Day of Exercises *[MENA]* 14
British Foreign Secretary Rifkind Visits 14
Arrives in Cairo *[MENA]* 14
Meets Musa *[Cairo Radio]* 14
Musa, Rifkind on Mubarak Meeting *[Cairo Radio]* 15
Mubarak, al-Qadhdhafi View Developments on Phone *[MENA]* 16
Foreign Minister Musa Lectures on Foreign Policy *[MENA]* 16
Mubarak Meets 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee *[MENA]* 17
Musa on Mubarak-'Arafat Meeting *[MENA]* 17
Romanian President Ion Iliescu Visits 18
On Peace Process, Embassy Move *[MENA]* 18
Musa on Talks *[MENA]* 18
Cairo Calls For New Talks Between UN, Iraq *[AFP]* 18
Musa Discusses POW's, Iraq, Other Issues *[MENA]* 19
Police Arrest Muslim Brotherhood Candidate *[AFP]* 20
Candidate Released *[AFP]* 20

Libya

BBC Radio Interviews al-Qadhdhafi *[Tripoli TV]* 21

Mauritania

President Receives PRC Deputy Foreign Minister *[Nouakchott Radio]* 26
Army Officers Jailed for Political Activity *[Paris International]* 26
Accusations Against Pro-Ba'ath Activists Commuted *[Libreville Radio]* 26

Morocco

Rabat Said Not To Host Jerusalem Minisummit *[AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I 9 Nov]* 26
Rabat Accused of 'Terrorism' in Western Sahara *[Radio of Saharan Democratic Arab Republic]* 27

Sudan

Clashes Continue Between Government Forces, 'Rebels' 27
SPLA Claims Success in Equatoria *[Kampala THE NEW VISION 8 Nov]* 27
SPLM: Troops 'Control' Equatoria *[MENA]* 27
Army Denies 'Rebel' Advance *[Omdurman Radio]* 28
Army Said To Control Juba *[Omdurman Radio]* 28
SPLA on Defensive Movements Around Juba *[London TV]* 28
State Declares Mobilization *[Omdurman Radio]* 29
Al-Bashir on Mobilization *[Omdurman Radio]* 29
Adviser on 'Incursion' *[Tehran Radio]* 29
Paper on 'Epic' Battle *[SUNA]* 30
Al-Bashir Attends Ceremony; Battalion Sent South *[Omdurman Radio]* 31

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Saudi Arabia

Riyadh Explosion Kills U.S. Personnel, Others 32
Cause of Blast Unknown *[AFP]* 32

Car Bomb Suspected *[AFP]* 32
Interior Ministry Source Comments *[Riyadh Radio]* 32
'Tigers of Gulf' Claim Blast *[AFP]* 32
Group Threatens More Attacks *[AFP]* 32

IRAQ

Baghdad Fails To Announce UN Embargo Decision *[AFP]* 33
Paper: Sanctions Extension Violates UN Charter *[INA]* 33
INC Urges UN To Step Up Pressure on Regime *[IRNA]* 33
PUK Prepares Proposals for U.S. Delegation *[Voice of the People]* 33
'Top Level U.S. Delegation' Reportedly in North *[IRNA]* 34
World Leaders Congratulate Saddam on Referendum 34
Russian President Boris Yeltsin *[Baghdad TV]* 34
PRC President Jiang Zemin *[INA]* 34
Paper Describes UK Drug Ban as 'Dastardly Act' *[AL-THAWRAH 29 Oct]* 34
Spokesman Denounces Uganda's Acts Against Sudan *[INA]* 35
New Ministers Take Constitutional Oath *[Baghdad TV]* 35
Saddam Discusses Workers' Performance at Meeting *[INA]* 36
Saddam Chairs Meeting on Local Councils Draft Law *[Baghdad Radio]* 36
Husayn Kamil on Future Plans To Topple Regime *[London TV]* 36
Claimant to Throne Calls For Meeting in London *[AL-NAHAR 2 Nov]* 40

ISRAEL

Rabin's 'Last Major Interview' on Palestinian Issue *[Paris LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR 9-15 Nov]* 41
Peres Vows To Continue Along Rabin's Peace Path *[Jerusalem TV]* 41
Baraq, Ramon Address Labor Memorial Session *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42
President Weizman Calls For National Unity *[Jerusalem TV]* 43
Threat To Kill Peres Received on Internet *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 10 Nov]* 43
Police Detain 5 Persons After Threat to Peres *[Jerusalem Radio]* 44
Bomb Threat Reportedly Made Against Netanyahu *[AFP]* 44
Attorney General: Another Political Murder Probable *[Jerusalem Radio]* 44
Evidence Shows 'Spiritual Authority' Approved Assassination *[Jerusalem TV]* 44
Rabbis Who Allegedly Issued Anti-Rabin Edicts Named *[Jerusalem Radio]* 45
Shahal: 'Amir's Group Planned Attacks on Palestinians *[Jerusalem Radio]* 45
Further on Group's Plans *[Jerusalem Radio]* 46
Group Suspected of Making Car Bombs *[Jerusalem Radio]* 46
Police Findings in Rabin Assassination Reported *[Jerusalem TV]* 46
'Arafat Visits Leah Rabin To Pay Condolences *[Jerusalem Radio]* 47
Peres Receives King Husayn Phone Call, Support *[Jerusalem Radio]* 47
Territories Closure Further Eased *[Jerusalem Radio]* 47
Rabinovich Doubts Syria's Willingness To Push Talks *[THE JERUSALEM POST 10 Nov]* 47
Peres: No Decision To Push Repeal of Direct Election Law *[DAVAR RISHON 10 Nov]* 48
Peres Turns Down Shin Bet Head's Offer To Resign *[Jerusalem TV]* 48
Labor Appoints Team for Coalition Talks *[Jerusalem Radio]* 48
Labor Bureau Nominates Peres for Prime Minister *[Jerusalem Radio]* 48
Peres May Keep Defense Portfolio; Ramon Back to Labor *[Jerusalem Radio]* 49
Sarid Says Meretz Has No Cabinet Claims *[Jerusalem Radio]* 50
Peres, Netanyahu Meet, Agree To Work for Tolerance *[Jerusalem Radio]* 50
IDF Pleased With Janin Redeployment *[Jerusalem Radio]* 50
New Jewish Neighborhood Approved in East Jerusalem *[HA'ARETZ 10 Nov]* 50

Ministers Seek To Ban Entry of Jewish American 'Extremists' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 50

JORDAN

King Speaks on Domestic, Regional Issues *[Amman TV]* 52
House of Representatives Backs Speech *[Amman TV]* 55
Parties, Figures Support Speech *[AL-DUSTUR 11 Nov, etc.]* 57
Government To Comply With King's 'Directives' *[JORDAN TIMES]* 58
Government Criticized on Israeli Ties, Normalization *[Al-AHALI 9 Nov]* 58
British Secretary of State Malcolm Rifkind Visits 59
Calls U.S. Bill on Jerusalem 'Unwise' *[Amman TV]* 59
Discusses Peace, Ties With King *[Amman Radio]* 59
Says Syria Cautious, Supports Peace Process *[Amman Radio]* 59
Ends Visit, Holds News Conference *[Amman Radio]* 60
Further on News Conference *[Amman TV]* 60
Iraqi Minister Reportedly on Unannounced Visit *[London AL-HAYAH 13 Nov]* 61
FRC Says Intelligence Service Arrested Members *[AL-SAFIR 3 Nov]* 62
Family Squabble Behind Airline Bomb Hoax *[JORDAN TIMES 11 Nov]* 62

LEBANON

Hizballah Snubs Remarks by Dennis Ross *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 63
Alleged Mosad Collaborators Arrested in South *[London AL-HAYAH 9 Nov]* 63
Hizballah Official on Arrest of 'Spies' *[Tehran Radio]* 64
Government Urged To 'Prevent' Mosad Penetration *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 64
Britain's Rifkind Arrives on Official Visit 65
Buwayz Comments on Visit; Talks Held *[Beirut Radio]* 65
Rifkind Ends Visit, Departs *[Beirut Radio]* 66
Prime Minister's Talks in Damascus Reported *[Beirut Radio]* 66
Celebration on Rabin Death Said To Show Weak Government *[AL-ANWAR 7 Nov]* 66
'Violent' Israeli Bombardment in South Reported *[Beirut Radio]* 66

SYRIA

Qaddur: Israel Wants Peace, Land Together *[Damascus Radio]* 68
Khaddam Criticizes Arabs for 'Rushing' to Israel *[AL-SAFIR 1 Nov]* 68
Defense Minister: Peace 'Strategic Option' *[Damascus Radio]* 69
Radio: Beilin Misinterpreted al-Shar's 'Arab Proverb' *[Damascus Radio]* 69
Press Views al-Asad's Remarks on Peace Stance *[Damascus Radio]* 70
Paper Blames Arab 'Weakness' for Israel's Intransigence *[SANA]* 71
Motive Behind Rabin Assassination Viewed *[Damascus Radio]* 71
NPF: Country Determined To Continue Peace Process *[Damascus TV]* 72
Press Stresses Commitment to Peace Efforts *[Damascus Radio]* 72
Corrective Movement Silver Jubilee Celebrations End 73
Al-Asad Addresses Working Class *[SANA]* 73
Jordanian Figure Hails Movement *[Damascus Radio]* 74
New Tourism Minister Appointed *[SANA]* 74

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

President Gives 'Exclusive' Interview on Pakistan *[London MBC TV]* 75
Foreign Ministry Lodges Protest With Pakistan *[Kabul Radio]* 75
Tehran Envoy Denounces Pakistani Minister's Visit *[Tehran Radio]* 75
Air Defense Forces Test Surface to Air Missiles *[Kabul Radio]* 76

Taleban Spokesman Denies Agreement With Hekmatyar *[IRNA]* 76
Radio Reports on Taleban's Attack on Kabul *[Kabul Radio]* 76
Taleban Reportedly Sustains Losses, Loses 60 Men *[Kabul Radio]* 77
Taleban Reportedly Attacks Bagram Base *[IRNA]* 77
Taleban Reportedly Resumes Shelling of Kabul *[IRNA]* 77
Rockets Said To Kill 35 in Kabul *[Kabul Radio]* 78
Islamic Army Reportedly Captures Taleban Positions *[Kabul Radio]* 78

India

Congress-I Protests Against U.S. Official's Visit *[Delhi Radio]* 78
U.S. Resumption of Nuclear Testing Condemned *[Delhi International]* 78
Minister Hails CHOGM Decision To Suspend Nigeria *[Delhi Radio]* 79
Contact Said Reestablished With Tourist Kidnappers *[Delhi Radio]* 79
Japanese Tourist Reportedly Missing in Kashmir *[AFP]* 80
'Massive Manhunt' Launched for Tourist *[AFP]* 80
Kashmir Act Said Amended To Facilitate Elections *[Delhi Radio]* 80
Election Commission Decides Against Kashmir Vote *[Delhi Radio]* 80
Further on Election Decision *[Delhi Radio]* 80
Political Party Views on Kashmir Elections Reported *[Delhi Radio]* 81
BJP's Choice of Vajpayee for Prime Minister Viewed *[NAVBHARAT TIMES 1 Nov]* 81
Report on BJP Leader's Predictions for Elections *[NAVBHARAT TIMES 1 Nov]* 82

Iran

U.S. Reportedly 'Ready' for Unconditional Talks *[Tehran TV]* 82
Daily Notes Efforts by 'Global Arrogance' *[IRNA]* 83
Foreign Ministry Denies PRC Chemical Warfare Aid *[IRNA]* 83
Velayati Comments on al-Shaqaqi's Death, Islam *[KEYHAN 1 Nov]* 84
Commentaries View Rabin Assassination, Aftermath 84
Khamene'i Remarks Viewed *[Tehran International]* 84
Israel's 'Complete Annihilation' Urged *[KEYHAN 5 Nov]* 85
Opposition Reaction to Rabin Death Viewed *[KEYHAN 6 Nov]* 85
Rabin's Death Called 'Divine Decree' *[TEHRAN TIMES 6 Nov]* 86
'Separation of Ranks' After Rabin Viewed *[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 7 Nov]* 86
Rafsanjani's Remarks Cause Islamic Seminar Delay 87
Remarks on Rabin Force Postponement *[Tehran Radio]* 87
Radio Views Suspension of Forum *[Tehran Radio]* 87
Radio Appreciates German Postponement *[Tehran Radio]* 88
Invitation Said Still 'Valid' *[Tehran TV]* 88
'Thousands' Demonstrate Against Azerbaijan's Referendum *[AFP]* 89
Yazdi Assails Critics of Clergy in Friday Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 89
Further on Yazdi Friday Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 89
Rowhani Speaks on Parties, Media, Satellites *[Tehran Radio]* 91
Nation's Solar Energy Said Greater Than Oil, Gas *[IRNA]* 92
Nuclear Energy Official Comments on Improvements *[IRNA]* 92

Pakistan

'Statement' Issued After Bhutto's Visit to Iran *[THE NATION 9 Nov]* 93
U.S. Not To Receive Report on Bhutto's Iran Visit *[THE NEWS 13 Nov]* 95
Iranian Official Emphasizes Trade, Cooperation *[Islamabad Radio]* 95
Minister's Address on Defense, Kashmir Reported *[THE NATION 2 Nov]* 95
Leghari Speaks to CHOGM, Addresses India 'Excesses' *[THE NATION 11 Nov]* 96
Islamabad on 'Rejection' of Kashmir Election Plan *[Islamabad Radio]* 97

Khan Comments on Rejection of Elections *[Islamabad Radio]* 97
Grenade Reportedly Hits Karachi Police Headquarters *[AFP]* 97

Sri Lanka

Minister Says War To Continue Until 'Victory' *[Colombo International]* 98
Troops Said To Resume 'Massive' Jaffna Offensive 98
Fighting Resumes After 1-Week Break *[AFP]* 98
Fifty Tamil 'Guerrillas' Said Killed *[AFP]* 99
AFP Reports on 'Heavy Casualties' 99
Government Takes 2 Towns Near Jaffna *[Colombo International]* 99
Troops Said Continuing Jaffna Advance *[Colombo International]* 100
'Heavy Fighting' Reported *[Colombo International]* 100
Troops Said To Consolidate Positions *[DAILY NEWS 13 Nov]* 100
LTTE's Naval Base Town Said Shelled *[AFP]* 101
LTTE Says Women's Wing Leader Killed *[AFP]* 101
Colombo Explosions Reported; Police Launch Search *[Colombo International]* 102
Further on Suicide Bomb Attacks *[Colombo International]* 102

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat on Rabin's Murder, U.S. Congress Decision

NC1011204695 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2005 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has said that the assassination of the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was a blow directed at the peace process. He added that Rabin and acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres are the ones who led the peace process with the Palestinians.

Speaking on the First Television Channel's "Bayt al-'Arab" [Home of the Arabs] Program this evening, the Palestinian president added that Rabin's assassination revealed the danger of the extremist secret organizations inside Israel. We have repeatedly warned of these organizations' danger to the entire peace process, he added.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat emphasized that the decision by the U.S. Congress to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem contradicts international legitimacy, UN resolutions — of the Security Council or of the UN secretary general — and the U.S. letters of guarantees to the Arab nation during, before, and after the Madrid conference. He remarked that this decision will have a negative impact on the peace process as a whole.

The Palestinian president expressed his hope that what has been agreed upon between Israel and the Palestinians in Washington and Cairo will be implemented sincerely and scrupulously according to the signed Declaration of Principles.

He also expressed his confidence in Shim'on Peres who, along with Rabin, led and followed up the peace process step by step. He cited what Peres told French President Jacques Chirac — that the Palestinian elections will be held on the scheduled date, 20 January.

'Arafat: Peres To Follow Rabin in Pursuing Peace

JN1011133795 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Report by 'Adil al-Za'nun in Gaza, from "Today's Events" program]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] President Yasir 'Arafat performed Friday prayers today at al-Nasr mosque in Shaykh 'Ijlin quarter in Gaza.

Following the prayers, President 'Arafat told reporters that the National Authority is doing all it can, in coordination with the Israeli side, to pursue the peace process. The president said Acting Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will continue the peace process and follow in Yitzhaq Rabin's footsteps. President 'Arafat said the majority of Israelis support the peace process. [passage omitted]

This morning, President 'Arafat said that in its next session in Cairo next Sunday [12 November], the PLO Executive Committee will discuss the issue of Palestinian legislative elections. He added that this meeting is part of the Executive Committee's ordinary meetings. He pointed out that the previous meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Tunisia.

The president said that 13 November is the date set for deploying Palestinian police and security forces that arrived in the city of Jericho from the Gaza Strip last night, the total of which is more than 300.

'Arafat Denies Report of Imminent Meeting With Peres

NC1311115395 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has said that Cairo was chosen as the venue for the PLO Executive Committee meeting so that we could be near our brothers in the Egyptian leadership to exchange views on the new phase of the Palestinian-Israeli accord signed in Washington.

Speaking on the "Good Morning Egypt" program, 'Arafat denied reports of an imminent meeting between him and acting Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. He added that he is not against such a meeting but Peres is busy with the Israeli cabinet and Labor Party meetings.

Commenting on the PLO Executive Committee meetings, he said their agenda is extensive and covers numerous issues, most importantly legislative elections and the Palestinian forces' deployment in the West Bank's populated regions, which form 32.2 [percent] of the West Bank area. He described it as an important process, because the Palestinian Authority will have direct responsibility for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Asked how long the committee meetings took yesterday and whether this means that differences exist, he said: This is how meetings are held; we discuss things patiently.

President 'Arafat described the outcome of the Executive Committee meetings as good and positive. He said: We have formed a committee to review the election law. It comprises specialized men of law who will scrutinize the law. The committee's work should be completed this week.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

He said the brothers in Egypt, led by President Mubarak, actively participate with us in discussing all the important issues. He cited as examples of this participation, the Taba, Alexandria, and Cairo negotiations, which resulted in the accords signed between the Palestinians and Israelis. He said: We are in permanent need of the Egyptian brothers' opinion and support in this difficult process.

Asked about the prospects for emerging from the problems facing the Palestinian Authority in the self-rule areas, he said the major problems the authority is facing are economic.

He added that the Israeli occupation has destroyed the infrastructure of schools, roads, and other facilities and we are now building new utilities.

'Arafat summed up all this by saying: We are facing the problems of building a country that has been destroyed by occupation by depending on our people's great energy.

Israeli Approval of Building in Jerusalem Denounced

JN1211160095 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Information Ministry denounced the approval today by the Israeli Government to build a new neighborhood in the center of occupied Jerusalem.

The Ministry considered this Israeli decision free support for the extremist right wing camp which is hostile to the peace process and which seeks to Judaize Arab Jerusalem. This camp also disregards international resolutions which consider Jerusalem an occupied territory whose features should not be changed by the occupation.

The Ministry cautioned that the tendency to uphold the objectives of the right wing will adversely affect the peace process. It called on the Israeli Government not to support or cover up the aggressive programs of the extremist right wing. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was a victim of these programs, it added.

The Information Ministry also called on the international community as well as legal and humanitarian institutions to intervene directly to commit Israel to the international resolutions and to protect the Palestinian people from the settlers' oppression.

'Arafat, UK's Rifkind Hold News Conference

JN0911150695 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1238 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Report by 'Adil al-Za'nun in Gaza, from "Today's Events" program—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was concluded a short while ago. The meeting was held at the Presidential Office in Gaza this afternoon.

In a news conference held by President 'Arafat and Rifkind after the meeting, President 'Arafat said he held constructive and important talks with the British foreign secretary. The president said that their discussions dealt with ways of advancing the peace process, especially after the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. The president described the incident as a heinous crime. President 'Arafat hoped that Israeli Acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will have the opportunity to go ahead with the peace process and overcome the obstacles facing the two sides. President 'Arafat thanked Britain for its support to the Palestinian Authority and the peace process. The president added: We are looking forward to a just and comprehensive peace in the region. President 'Arafat also thanked British Prime Minister John Major for his efforts to aid the Palestinian economy.

For his part, British Foreign secretary Rifkind stressed his country's support for the Palestinian Authority and the peace process. Rifkind stressed the need to help the United Nations achieve peace for the Palestinian and Israeli peoples. He added: We in Britain should give constant diplomatic and material support to the Palestinian economy. He said that Britain will contribute toward a training project for Palestinian teachers. Britain will also contribute to other projects, including social projects, he said. The British foreign secretary expressed great appreciation for the positive changes in the Gaza strip, which he described as important achievements.

'Arafat Chairs PLO Executive Committee Meeting

NC1211125195 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1212 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in al-Andalus Palace in Cairo today under the chairmanship of Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was attended by Faruq Qaddumi, Bishop Iliya Khuri, Dr. Samir Ghawshah, Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, Yasir 'Amr, 'Ali Ishaq, Salim al-Za'nun, Juwayd al-Ghusayn, Muham-

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

mad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, Jamal al-Surani, Mahmud 'Abbas, 'Abdallah al-Hurani, and Sulayman al-Najjab.

Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Mahmud Darwish; and Shafiq al-Hut did not attend the meeting.

The PLO Executive Committee will discuss the latest developments in the peace process, especially on the Palestinian track; the ramifications of Yitzhaq Rabin's assassination on the peace process; inter-Palestinian relations; and Palestinian-Arab relations.

Committee Resumes Meetings

NC1211204495 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1915 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—The PLO Executive Committee resumed its meetings this evening under the chairmanship of Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat. The committee will complete discussion of the topics on its agenda, the foremost of which being the legislative elections in the self-rule areas and the redeployment of the [Israeli] army in the West Bank.

In addition to President 'Arafat, the following 11 members of the Executive Committee are participating in the meetings: Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu-al-Lutf; Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin; Jamal al-Surani; Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh; Yasir 'Amr; Bishop Iliya Khuri; 'Ali Ishaq; Sulayman al-Najjab; 'Abdallah Hurani; Samir Ghawshah; and Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi. Also participating are Salim al- Za'nun, alias Abu-al-Adib, acting Palestine National Council speaker; and Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, local government minister.

The following members did not attend: Shafiq al-Hut, Jawid al-Ghusayn, 'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh, Taysir Khalid, poet Mahmud Darwish, and Abu-Isma'il. This the first time that this many members have attend the PLO Executive Committee meetings. Also, this is the first time that 'Abdallah al-Hurani and Sulayman al-Najjab have attend such meetings since the signing of the Oslo accord between the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, spokesman for the Palestinian president, has stated that the PLO Executive Committee will wind up its meetings late tonight. He noted that the conferees will discuss a number of topics topped by the Palestinian elections in the self-rule areas, the redeployment of the Israeli army in the West Bank, and Palestinian-Israeli and Palestinian-Arab relations. He added that a statement will be released at the end of the meetings.

PNC Secretary Comments on Meetings

NC1311090295 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0800 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—The PLO Executive Committee has decided to form a committee of Palestinian men of law to answer questions on the legislative elections in the self-rule areas, Muhammad Subayh, Palestine's delegate at the Arab League and secretary of the Palestine National Council [PNC], said today.

He added that the second joint session of the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC leadership last night discussed the Israeli forces' redeployment in the West Bank, a timetable for their redeployment, and developments in the region's peace process.

He said the conferees reviewed global ties, the U.S. Congress decision to transfer the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a report on inter-Palestinian relations, and the progress of talks between the authority and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and other factions.

He noted that there is a trend within Hamas to form a political party for its participation in the elections.

The PLO Executive Committee and the PNC leadership are scheduled to hold a final session this afternoon.

'Arafat Forms Committee To Take Control of Janin

JN1111200695 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1900 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat decided to form a committee under the chairmanship of al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, secretary general of the Presidency, to take over control of the Janin Governorate once the Israeli occupation forces withdraw from the populated areas in the governorate on Monday during a large popular celebration.

The committee comprises al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, secretary general of the Presidency; Lawyer Jamil al-Tarifi, minister of civilian affairs; Major General Nasr Yusuf, commander of the National Security Forces; Major General 'Abdallah al-Farra; Brigadier General Ghazi al-Jabali, commander of the Police Force; and Brigadier General al-Hajj Isma'il, commander of the Palestinian National Security Forces in the West Bank; Colonel Musa 'Arafat, chief of the Intelligence Department; Colonel Jibril al-Rujub, chief of Preventive Security; and Colonel Tawfiq al-Tirawi, director general of the General Intelligence in the West Bank.

Brig. Gen. al-Hajj Isma'il Jabr, commander of the National Security Forces in the West Bank, said that

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

most of the final arrangements for the withdrawal of the occupation forces from Janin and its villages and for the deployment of the Palestinian Forces there have been completed. The Palestinian Forces will arrive in Janin on 13 November in two batches, with all their weapons and military vehicles, and in their military uniform.

Authority Assumes Some Powers in Janin

JN1211195595 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Authority assumed authority over transportation, communications, and meteorological responsibilities in the Janin areas today. This took place at an official ceremony, during which the Palestinian flag was hoisted over the buildings of the aforementioned departments.

The National Authority is scheduled to assume the transportation, communications, and meteorological powers in the cities of Nabulus and Tulkarm tomorrow. It will assume the same powers in Bethlehem and Hebron on Wednesday [15 November].

Policemen Enter Janin; Celebration Held

JN1311081295 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Authority will take control of the Janin area today in a mammoth official and popular celebration which will be attended by al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, secretary general of the Presidency; a number of officials; and military commanders.

A 500-man unit from the Palestinian police entered the city at dawn today in military uniform and with their weapons. Another group of security forces will also arrive in the city today.

A ceremony was held at the Palestinian Police Headquarters in Janin last night to hand over the so-called military governor's office to the National Authority. An agreement was initialed to assume all civilian powers.

'Arafat: No Meeting With Hamas During Cairo Visit

NC1211112895 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has stated that he will not meet, during his current visit to Cairo, with any members of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas. He pointed out that contacts are under way to hold a meeting [between the two sides] in Cairo after a few days.

Speaking upon arrival in Cairo earlier today, 'Arafat said that the most important topics that will be discussed by the PLO Executive Committee are the Palestinian elections scheduled to be held on 20 January, issues related to future negotiations with Israel, and the situation in the Arab world.

Hamas To Participate in Jan Elections

NC1311073695 Paris AFP in English 0558 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Janin, West Bank, Nov 13 (AFP)—The militant group HAMAS will take part in the first Palestinian elections to be held in January, the secretary general of Yasir 'Arafat's self-rule authority said Monday [13 November].

"HAMAS told me personally yesterday (Sunday) that they will participate," al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim told AFP.

'Abd-al-Rahim was in Janin to witness the departure of Israeli troops and the handover to Palestinian police, after 28 years of Israeli occupation.

The Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS) is opposed to the Israel- PLO autonomy accords and has carried out dozens of anti-Israeli attacks.

'Abd-al-Rahim, who is leading reconciliation talks between the PLO and HAMAS, refused to say which HAMAS leader told him the group would join in the elections.

'Arafat has begun reconciliation moves in the past weeks and announced on Saturday that he would meet with HAMAS leaders in exile in Cairo in the coming month. He has also released top HAMAS leaders from Gaza jails.

But so far, HAMAS has refused to take part in elections for an 82-member self-rule council and a president of the executive authority, hinting only its position could change.

HAMAS has also so far refused to renounce its threat of further attacks on Israelis, a key demand by Arafat for any reconciliation.

Janin on Monday became the first of six Palestinian towns to be evacuated under the September 28 Israel-PLO autonomy accord to allow historic elections to go ahead around January 20, before the start of the Moslem holy month Ramadan.

Troops will stay in Hebron under special arrangements to protect the 400 settlers living among 120,000 Palestinians.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

On Sunday the Palestinians began registration for the electoral roll, with 'Arafat becoming the first to receive a voter card.

'Arafat Addresses Fatah Conference on Elections

JN1211073595 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat has said that we are about to begin a nationalist experiment of struggle; namely, the first legislative elections in our homeland. 'Arafat spoke of the cultural, humanitarian, and political aspects of these elections.

Speaking during a conference held by the Fatah Movement's central region conference in the Gaza Strip, 'Arafat praised the role of the Palestinian women, stressing the need for their participation in elections. 'Arafat noted that we are facing a historical, nationalist, patriotic, and political responsibility and that the Fatah youths will meet the challenge, pointing out that organization is the real basis for the building process. He explained that the battle has not ended because we have not yet acquired all of Palestine. [sentence as heard]

'Arafat Obtains First Voter Card; 1.2 Million To Register

JN1211130795 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat this morning obtained the first voter card beginning the process of registration for the elections. Some 7,000 men and women teachers from various parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip have begun the registration of voters.

In a statement to reporters on the occasion, 'Arafat said this is the first step toward establishing the independent Palestinian state, voicing hope that our Palestinian people will continue their march until they establish their state with Jerusalem as its capital.

For his part, Sa'ib 'Urayqat, minister of local government and head of the Central Election Committee, said that this is a historic step. He called on our people to cooperate with the teachers and register their names. He noted that approximately 1.2 million Palestinian voters are expected to register for the polls.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Algeria

Nahnah Views Presidential Elections

NC1111212895 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—Cheikh Mahfoud Nahnah, leader of the Islamic Society Movement, HAMAS, and candidate to the Algerian presidency, has expressed his belief that the presidential elections in Algeria scheduled for late November are seen as a major step to a comprehensive political solution—if the elections are fair and credible.

In an interview in AL-AHRAM's 12 November edition, Nahnah said that giving preference to dialogue, broadening the government base, and allowing coexistence away from intransigence and autocracy will guarantee the solving of the security problem in Algeria.

The Algerian presidential candidate emphasized that the political solution according to his declared program will include mechanisms to prevent tampering with the people's resources.

Expatriates Vote Amid 'Chaos' at Paris Consulate

LD1111155495 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Algerian community living abroad started going to the polling stations at Algerian embassies, consulates and representations abroad so as to carry out their duty to vote in the first pluralistic presidential elections in the history of independent Algeria. Algerians abroad have three days to vote and today is the first day. The number of Algerian voters abroad is over 700,000 including over 630,000 in France alone. The other voters are in Italy, Britain, Spain, Belgium, and some fraternal and friendly states. The radio correspondent Noureddine Bouziane has sent us the following report on the atmosphere of the first day of the elections in France:

[Bouziane] Despite the reassurances given by officials at the diplomatic representations that they had adopted all the organizational measures to facilitate the voting operation, the reality turned out to be different this morning. There was a disorganization which officials attribute to the small number of polling stations and security measures. Voters attributed it to bad preparation and shortcomings. Many expatriates even said that what took place was a real deliberate blow to the elections. Others threatened to return home and boycott the elections. These considered the chaos which took place this morning as an insult to the expatriates.

Thousands of expatriates have been lining up in the open air, at a time when rain threatens to fall at any moment, since the early hours of this morning in front and around the Algerian consulate in Paris. Up to the time when this report was prepared only a few of those who have been queuing have voted.

It became clear that the consulate was surprised by the huge number of voters who came from the neighboring towns and outskirts of the French capital. Some of them travelled 200 km, arrived early in the consulate and spent three full hours queuing in the midst of a large crowd. The important thing to say is that despite all the pains, difficulties and bad organization, the voters kept their calm and expressed great civility. They bore all the burdens and the authorities concerned should be apprised of the situation quickly.

I would like to point out two things: The first is that the representatives of the four candidates were present in front of the polling boxes. The second is that our radio was prevented by persons inside the consulate from carrying out their mission under the claim that the correspondent was not accredited to the consulate. We have presented this report to you from Paris.

Arab League, OAU Election Observers Arrive

LD1111210495 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In order to complete the number of international observers monitoring the election, two teams of observers — one from the Arab League led by Assistant Secretary Dr. 'Ali 'Abd-al-Karim, and another from the OAU led by the director of the OAU's political department — arrived in Algiers this evening.

The Arab League team includes 44 observers chosen from 11 Arab countries. The OAU team includes 52 observers chosen from the OAU Secretariat. It is expected that OAU Secretary General Amadou Traore will be arriving in the country tomorrow. Mihoub Mihoubi, adviser and official spokesman at the presidency, greeted the two teams when they arrived. [passage omitted]

Interior Ministry Tightens Security for Elections

LD1211185295 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Interior Ministry informs the citizens that, within the framework of holding the 16 November 1995 presidential elections, the following has been decided for the period 13-17 November 1995:

1. Organizing the traffic for heavy transport vehicles on the roads without hindering the national economic activity.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

2. Closing down all kinds of weekly markets. This measure does not affect the daily fruits and vegetables wholesale markets, which will remain open.
3. Postponing all sporting activities.

The Interior Ministry reassures the citizens that the application of these legal measures, which is not in anyway aimed at reducing or obstructing the national activity in all sectors, is limited in time, and that these arrangements only endeavor to bolster the security apparatus that has been established to allow the citizens to perform their electoral duty.

The Interior Ministry's statement indicates that there will be no disturbance or inconvenience that hinders the normal process of their daily life and customary activity.

The Interior Ministry also informs the citizens that, in accordance with the legislation and organization on the holding of elections, the distribution of the voters' cards will continue until Wednesday, 15 November, instant. [passage omitted]

Newspapers Report Car Bomb Explosion; 5 Killed

LD1211112195 Rome RAI Televideo Teletext in Italian 1118 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] There is no respite in attacks in Algeria. A car bomb has exploded in front of the municipal building in Ouled Yaich, 40 km from the capital, killing five people and wounding 30. The explosion took place yesterday and was reported by Algerian newspapers.

The explosion occurred late in the morning when many people were at the municipal building to obtain documents for the presidential elections on 16 November. Among the dead were two people who were pasting up posters for the [presidential] candidates Said Sadi and Liamine Zeroual, the incumbent president. The opposition has called for a boycott of the elections. The GIA has threatened to kill voters.

Assassination Attempt on French Nuns Reported

Nun Dies of Injuries

LD1011134395 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The security services have released a statement announcing that there was an assassination attempt against two French nuns at about 0850 in the district of Kouba, in Algiers, this morning. The attack was carried out by two gunmen. The nun Odette Helene Prevaut, aged 63, died of her injuries. The other nun Marie-Odette, aged 53, has been taken to Ain Naadja military hospital [in Algiers] for treatment, the statement added.

Interior Minister Condemns Attack

LD1111133695 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] On behalf of the Algerian government, Mustapha Benmansour, minister of interior and local authorities, yesterday condemned the terrorist action in Kouba which cost the lives of two French nuns. The interior minister stressed that that crime harmed spiritual values.

Pope, Chirac Send Condolences to Family

LD1111200495 Paris Radio France International in French 1730 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] After the attack on two French nuns on 10 November in Algiers, in messages of condolence to the family of the killed nun, Pope John Paul II said he is saddened and President Jacques Chirac expressed his indignation and horror.

Security Services Conduct Operations

Kill 5-Man 'Terrorist' Group

LD0911195895 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] This afternoon, the security services killed a five-man terrorist group in Tizi Ouzou. This group of five criminals were killed in a house, in a multi-story building in the new quarter in Tizi Ouzou, in which they were hiding. They were killed after refusing to give themselves up and firing at the security forces. The dangerous criminal Ait Ziane Arezki, leader of the group, was among those killed. We point out that this group carried out several assassinations including the killing of the two nuns [Sisters Esther Paniagua and Garidad Alvarez from the Augustine mission in Algiers who were killed in Bab El Oued, Algiers, on 23 October 1994] and the late Stambouli.

The same communique said that one of the five terrorists had killed his wife, who was with him and wanted to give herself up to the security services. The security forces recovered a quantity of weapons and ammunition during the operation.

Kill 14 'Terrorists' Between 6-8 Nov

LD1011200095 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In a statement, the security services today announced that their forces had eliminated

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

between 6 - 8 November 14 terrorists following a number search operations in the provinces of Chlef, Algiers, Constantine, Blida, and Boumerdes.

The security forces also managed, during the same operations, to recover seven weapons, an assortment of automatic, assault and hunting rifles, and a quantity of ammunition, the statement added.

Kill 24 'Terrorists'

LD1211193895 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A statement by the security services issued today said that the security service killed 24 terrorist in search operations they carried out in Tebessa, Sidi Bel Abbes, Medea, Blida, Tipaza, Ain Defla, Tlemcen, Bouira, Relizane, Bordj Bou Arraredj and Bejaia.

The security services' statement added that during these operations their services succeeded in recovering a quantity of arms and ammunition, and a stolen car.

Egypt

Peace, 'Fanaticism' After Rabin Death Viewed

NC0911161895 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1240 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Commentary by Muhammad Sharaf: "Peace Efforts in the Face of Terrorism, Fanaticism in the Middle East"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has disclosed worldwide some extremely important facts on the situation in the Middle East that the Western media in general, particularly those controlled by Israel's sympathizers, had tried for past half century, quite successfully, to obliterate or reverse. The first of these facts is that fanaticism is not an Arab trademark. Fanaticism came to the region with the start of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is true that there is not a single society that is free of extremism for one reason or another, but extremism becomes a phenomenon only if social and political conditions permit it to.

The U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK, which is known to be deeply biased and sympathetic to Israel, has summed up the situation in a brief statement. In this week's issue, the magazine admits that the bullets that killed Rabin were not fired by an Arab, but by a Jewish citizen. The magazine adds that the U.S. mentality always believes that terrorism wears an Arab turban, but what happened in Israel proves that extremism exists everywhere. Naturally, the magazine did not cite the long and bloody history of fanaticism and terrorism in Israel since its establishment. Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans made a courageous comment on Rabin's assassination at the hands of a Jewish citizen. He said that the only comfort is that the culprit was not an Arab, otherwise hell would have broken loose.

We say this objectively and without any desire to brag or gloat over the matter. For murder is the meanest of all crimes, particularly if it is about a difference of opinion. What we want to say is that terrorism, fanaticism, extremism, and the use of brute force to achieve illegitimate goals have plunged the Middle East into wars, a sea of blood, and individual and mass murders for the past 50 years.

We very strongly wish to point out another potential danger that looms over the heads of the people in this region. By this danger we mean the possibility that extremists, fanatics, and murderers, such as those who committed the Sabra and Shatila massacres in Lebanon [in 1982], the Hebron al-Ibrahimi Mosque and many other massacres before that, and Rabin's killer, may come to control Israel's atomic weapons, which it refuses to give up or destroy. We do not doubt for a single moment that these terrorist killers will not hesitate to use these weapons if they so decide, thus inflicting destruction, ruin, and peril on the region's people. No matter how we may look at the situation, we will not find an option permitting the people of the region, including the Israeli people, who like others are prone to the threats of extremism and terrorism, to combat this threat better than the peace option.

Rabin's assassination has targeted the peace process. The crime took place at a delicate turn in the peace process. Practical steps have begun for the establishment of a Palestinian entity. The crime was meant to halt these steps and to strike at the entire peace process on all tracks. However, it gives us some comfort and hope to see a demonstration for peace by the world leaders at Rabin's funeral. The late Israeli prime minister was killed after a popular rally for peace. According to reports, the massive rally was unprecedented, except for the demonstration that called for an end to the Israeli invasion in Lebanon in the early eighties.

It remains for the Israeli people to show, in practice, their sincere desire to achieve peace and to cleanse its society of extremism and terrorism by backing the peace process until its goals are achieved in full. Then, peace will prevail in the region and will protect its peoples, including the Israeli people—yesterday's enemy and tomorrow's friend—if there is good will and if greed and hatred vanish.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Musa: Peres 'Capable' of Directing Peace Process

NC0911214995 Paris AFP in English
1520 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Nov 9 (AFP) — Israel's acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is "capable" of carrying on the peace process inherited from his slain predecessor Yitzhaq Rabin, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa told AFP on Thursday [9 November].

"I think that on the Israeli scene Shim'on Peres is capable of directing the peace process. Up until now he has been the most interested and the most involved in it," Musa said.

"For that reason I feel the opportunity exists to continue the peace process with the same vigor," Musa said.

He pointed out that Peres had already reassured the Palestinians that Israeli troops redeployment from the West Bank would be carried out as planned.

The Egyptian foreign minister said "it has become obvious that there is a division" in Israeli society. "But the degree of this division has in the end given rise to the general opinion that the side hostile to peace has gone too far in its extremism," he said.

"The reaction will be that only peace is able to protect states, peoples and individuals against extremism," he said, adding: "I hope I'm not being overly optimistic."

"We must aim to continue the peace process and extremist forces must not be allowed to stop it."

In light of the assassination of Rabin at a Tel Aviv peace rally on Saturday, "talks must be revived on the Syrian track. The US administration is equally determined to reopen them," Musa said.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad said Wednesday he hoped for "rapid progress" in negotiations with Israel while meeting with British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind.

Islamic Group Statement Threatens Foreigners

NC0911132795 Paris AFP in English
1232 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Report by Laurence Chabert]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Nov 9 (AFP)—The main Egyptian militant group al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah [Islamic Group] on Thursday [9 November] threatened to kill foreign tourists as it claimed the first attack on a train for six months.

The threat sent a shudder through the tourist industry which is looking forward to a bumper season after three years of misery caused by the militant campaign against holidaymakers.

The group said it ambushed a train travelling from Luxor to Cairo on Tuesday wounding 11 Egyptians, describing it as a "tourist target." It was the first such operation since April.

"This attack is another warning to tourists in Egypt to leave the country immediately to save their souls," it said.

The statement, dated November 8, did not mention another train attack in southern Egypt on Wednesday in which two foreign tourists — a French woman and a Dutch man — and an Egyptian were wounded.

The gunmen, hiding in sugar cane fields along the railway line, struck near Farshut village, 600 kilometers (360 miles) south of Cairo.

The train continued as far as the next station at Jirja, where the three injured passengers were taken to hospital, police said.

The two foreigners, hurt by flying glass, were able to continue their vacations.

The confrontation between police and armed Moslem extremists seeking to overthrow the government has left more than 900 dead including 12 foreign tourists since March 1992.

The threat was issued by the Tal'at Yasin group, named after an al-Jama'ah military chief killed by police last year.

"These trains carry foreign tourists as well as senior Egyptian police officials," it said.

"We have already warned foreign tourists against coming to Egypt because the al-Jama'ah is at war with the apostate Egyptian regime," the text said.

The shooting was the latest in the "attacks against leading figures, state institutions and tourist targets."

The last train ambush was at the end of April and the last foreigners hurt were two Argentinians in January 12.

The resumption of operations came as a blow to tourist operators at the beginning of what promises to be a bumper season.

"It's a disaster," said the head of the one of the main hotel chains, requesting anonymity.

"We've been packed out for the past three weeks. But this throws everything up in the air."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

He said extra police had been deployed in Luxor, 700 kilometres (440 miles) south of Cairo, a major tourist centre with the Karnak and Luxor temples and nearby Valley of the Kings.

"We want to make as little fuss as possible about this affair because we don't want to go backwards three years," he said.

The number of luxury coaches on the tourist train linking Cairo to southern Egypt has risen from 12 to 17 compared with only five at the height of the militant campaign.

Statement Reiterates Threat

NC1011121195 Paris AFP in English 1144 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Nov 10 (AFP)—The main Egyptian militant group al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah [Islamic Group] claimed on Friday [10 November] a second attack against a train in southern Egypt, which injured three persons, including two tourists.

"A day after the Luxor operation, the mujahidin have made a second attack against a train carrying tourists ... injuring at least two European tourists," according to a statement received by a western news agency in Cairo.

On Wednesday, the al-Jama'ah said it ambushed a train travelling Tuesday from Luxor to Cairo, wounding 11 Egyptians, and described it as a "tourist target." It was the first such operation since April.

In the second attack on a train in the same region, which occurred on Wednesday, two foreign tourists — a French woman and a Dutch man — along with an Egyptian were lightly wounded by flying glass.

Al-Jama'ah threatened on Thursday to kill foreign tourists as it claimed the first attack on a train in six months.

Even as police announced new security measures to protect tourists, the attacks sent a shudder through the tourist industry, which was looking forward to a bumper season after three years of miserable business caused by militant violence.

In the typed statement, titled "Tourists, leave Egypt," the al-Jama'ah reaffirmed Friday its call for all holidaymakers "to leave the country to save their souls."

These attacks "prove the failure of the criminal operations led by the Egyptian regime against the mujahidin (fighters) in favor of the creation of Islamic state in Egypt."

The al-Jama'ah urged "Moslem youth to abandon all democratic options and elections, which have nothing to do with Islam, and join the ranks of the mujahidin to end the state's injustice and tyranny."

Police learned beforehand that al-Jama'ah members had "received orders from leaders abroad to resume attacks on tourists in Cairo and Giza" from the interrogation of militants arrested over the past two months, a security source said.

In Wednesday's attack the gunmen, hiding in sugar cane fields along the railway line, sprayed the train with machine-gun fire near Farshut village, 600 kilometers (360 miles) south of Cairo.

The confrontation between police and armed Moslem extremists seeking to overthrow the government has left more than 900 dead, including 12 foreign tourists, since March 1992.

The last train ambush was at the end of April and the last foreigners hurt were two Argentinians on January 12.

The statement also repeated threats against Croatia for its arrest in mid-September of a al-Jama'ah leader, Tal'at Fu'ad Qasim, who has since vanished mysteriously.

Investigators discovered 49 bullets at the scene of Wednesday's attacks with the name "Tal'at Qasim (Abu Talal)" carved into them, a police source said.

The al-Jama'ah has claimed a car bomb attack in October in Croatia which killed one and injured 29 in revenge for the arrest.

The attacks at the beginning of Egypt's winter season, the main time for western holidaymakers, came as a blow to tourist operators expecting a turnaround after business fell off by almost half over the last three years.

Further on Threats, Terrorism, Security

Embassy Downplays Threats

NC1011142895 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Paris, 10 Nov (MENA)—The Egyptian Embassy in Paris has stressed that the unsigned letter faxed abroad by terrorist groups [plural as received] carries empty, worthless threats and reflects the impotence and bankruptcy of these groups in the face of the successful blows dealt by the Egyptian security services.

That the terrorist remnants went abroad to practice their hostile activity against Egypt shows the extent of their failure and bankruptcy, the embassy said in a French-language press release issued today.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The statement stressed that security in Egypt is fully maintained and there is nothing to worry about. It said the attack on a train, when two people were hurt by flying glass, proves the terrorists' failure and despair.

The statement explained that the Egyptian authorities are taking every measure to ensure that the law is enforced, that security is maintained throughout the country, and that tourists are provided with every means of enjoying security and reassurance during their visits to Egypt.

Security Agencies 'In Control'

NC1011214195 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2115 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi has stated that the random incidents have had no effect on the tourist flow in Egypt, adding that the security agencies are in control of all incidents.

In a statement to AKHBAR AL-YAWM to be published on 11 November, al-Alfi pointed out that the random shootings at two trains in Upper Egypt have had no effect on the declared tourist flow into Egypt. He added that intensive security measures will be adopted in the coming stage to track down members of the terrorist groups to completely end this phenomenon. He stressed that the security agencies are capable of keeping tourists and investments secure and maintaining internal security in Egypt.

Security Alert to Plans

NC1211070495 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0630 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—Egyptian Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi reaffirmed that the security agencies are capable of safeguarding Egypt's security against any danger as well as any attempt to carry out terrorist operations on its territories by fugitive groups from abroad. He stressed that the security agencies are alert to all schemes concocted by these fugitives, as well as their instructions to elements inside Egypt to carry out their bloody crimes at this particular time.

In remarks to AL-AHRAM published today, al-Alfi noted that the State Security Intelligence Service now possesses extremely important and accurate information on the activity of terrorists abroad. This information is in the process of being developed into operations to confront these groups in the coming stage, he added. He pointed out that attempts to undermine security and stability in the country will utterly fail. This is because the security agencies are alert, particularly at present, to ensure appropriate conditions for conducting the elections in an atmosphere of democracy. He added that terrorists are being pursued everywhere to end this phenomenon and curb all types of crime, thus encouraging investment and the flow of tourists, who have started to return to Egypt at greater numbers than before.

The State Security Intelligence Service has uncovered the largest shipment of weapons, explosives, and rockets smuggled from Sudan via desert trails. They were hidden in six warehouses in Aswan. More than 164 Kalashnikovs, hand and assault grenades, and rockets were found.

Intelligence Seizes Sudanese Arms, 'Terrorist'

NC1111143195 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1400 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—The Egyptian State Intelligence Service has succeeded in dealing a painful and effective blow to the remnants of fugitive terrorists. The intelligence service also managed to seize a large quantity of hand grenades and explosives which have recently been smuggled to the country via the southern borders with Sudan. The aim of the terrorists was to carry out terrorist operations against prominent personalities, a number of police officers, police installations, and public and tourist sites. A leading terrorist figure has been arrested.

A responsible source at the ministry of interior said today that the State Security Intelligence Service has conducted analytical and practical studies of the recent terrorist activities in al-Minya and Qina. The intelligence service concluded that shipments of weapons and explosives were recently smuggled to the country and have been handed over to the fugitive terrorists in several governorates in order to carry out criminal acts and destabilize the country.

The source noted that a working team has arrived at the border area to gather information. The team concluded that in fact a large quantity of weapons, explosives, and ammunition has been brought to the country via Sudan's southern border. The terrorists used Toyota trucks to transport the weapons across the desert routes with the help of Sudanese intelligence members and some Sudanese tribes which live in the border area.

The source said that the weapons were stored in several areas in the desert and agricultural areas in the southern centers of Aswan. The weapons have been guarded by one of the leading fugitive terrorists.

The official source added in his statement that the terrorist commissioned by the group to guard these

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

weapons with a number of collaborators had received instructions from abroad to cut all communications and ties with the organization's elements in Egypt, for fear that they might be discovered with the weapons they were guarding, which were smuggled into the country with difficulty.

He pointed out that the State Security Service dispatched monitoring units to locate the weapons caches, adding that the units were deployed on the southern borders after receiving desert survival training and training in the local language.

The units succeeded in a short time in placing the chief guard under their full control and monitored all the group's movements and communications. They succeeded also in determining how the group communicated with its leaders abroad.

The source explained that the security services discovered that the group was holding contacts with Mustafa Hamzah, who lived in Sudan and kept Khartoum post box No. 10990. He added that the security service monitored how this terrorist and his accomplices received instructions from Mustafa Hamzah via telephone according to a timetable determined by a special code.

The Egyptian security source explained that the team the State Security Service dispatched located the cache sites by mixing with the region's tribes during the day, and then surveying and photographing the areas at night using night-vision and infrared cameras. A total of seven sites were located in the hilly and cultivated areas in Wadi al-'Arab, Sabil al-Dikkah, Kasir, 'Arab Sabil, and Wadi Shumayt in Kawm Umbu; and Nasr al-Nubah in Aswan Governate.

According to the source, a warrant was obtained from the Supreme State Security Prosecution; and the State Security Services conducted a surprise operation, instructing the Service's shock team to leave its secret position in Upper Egypt and storm the located area early on 10 November. The team seized the arsenal of weapons and explosives and arrested fugitive terrorist Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Azim Fawwaz, who commanded the team guarding these weapons.

The official source added that the terrorist tried to escape by firing at the force. But the force fired back to prevent him from escaping. He was wounded and then treated after being arrested. The team also arrested his accomplices, who were guarding the caches.

The Interior Ministry source noted the following seized weapons:

— 64 Russian-made Kalashnikov rifles, 7.62 by 39 caliber;

— 100 Russian-made "F-I" hand grenades;

— 36 blocks of highly explosive "PI" substance, weighing 250 grams each. The substance's explosive force is one and a half times stronger than TNT;

— 30 RPG shells;

— 30 cartridges of RPG propellers;

— 5 RPG launchers;

— 4 9-mm Spanish-made "Star" long pistol and one Belgian-made Browning;

— 5 night-vision telescopes;

— 100 handgrenade detonators;

— 2 kg of "C-4," a quickly exploding ballistic substance used to enhance the exploding power [Takbir Mawjat al-Infijar] during the manufacture of explosives;

— 1,700 armor-piercing live bullets 7.62 by 39 caliber; and

— 540 9-mm bullets.

In addition, the force also seized a number of survey maps showing vital targets, police and economic establishments, public buildings, and organization charts that include the names of targeted public figures; and,

— a forged identification card No. 29036, bearing the assumed name of Sulayman Sayyid Mustafa al-Minyawi, issued in Suhaj city on 7 October 1981.

The apprehended terrorist is Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Azim Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman Fawwaz, alias 'Umar. He was born in al-Shaykh Musa in Draw, Aswan, in 1965. He was in charge of the military wing of the Islamic Group in Upper Egypt and Aswan and is wanted in connection with several cases of terror and violence. These cases include one in which he is charged with unlicensed weapons possession, resisting authorities, and robbing a pharmacy in Aswan. He is also charged with the assassination of a State Security officer, the assassination of a police noncommissioned officer, and the assassination of an officer in the State Security Service in Aswan. He is implicated in a case that was referred to the military judiciary; the Islamic Group organization in Aswan and the seizure of weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

Further on Seizure

NC1111121595 Paris AFP in English 1139 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Nov 11 (AFP) — Egyptian security services have seized a large weapons and explosives haul which had been smuggled from

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Sudan to use in Muslim militant attacks on tourists and officials, police said Saturday [11 November].

Police said they found 100 Russian-made grenades, 64 Kalashnikov assault rifles, five RPG rocket launchers, 30 rockets, 15 kilogrammes (33 pounds) of powerful explosives and almost 2,000 bullets in seven separate sites in the southern Egyptian province of Aswan.

They believed "elements from the Sudanese secret services of helping the infiltration of the weapons across the border between the two countries," a police officer said.

They discovered lines of contact between "terrorists in Egypt who guard the caches and their leaders in Khartoum," he added.

A number of Muslim militants were arrested during the raid, including one who was shot in the foot as he tried to escape.

Police said they found maps of tourist sites with potential targets marked on and a hit-list of names with the weapons, the biggest ever haul discovered from Sudan.

Cairo has repeatedly accused Khartoum of supporting Muslim militants waging a violent campaign to topple the Egyptian government. It also said Sudan was behind a failed bid to kill President Husni Mubarak in Addis Ababa in June, a charge Sudan denies.

'Bright Star 95' Joint Maneuvers Begin

NC1011183795 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—The preliminary stage of the Bright Star 95 maneuvers began this evening. The following countries are taking part in the maneuvers: Egypt, the United States, France, Britain, and the United Arab Emirates [UAE].

This stage, which will continue until dawn tomorrow, includes the preparation for a massive naval landing operation, scheduled to take place in the al-'Amid area, west of Alexandria. The landing operation will be executed by eight Egyptian naval units, eight U.S. units, including the "USS" [name as received] aircraft carrier, and three French units.

During the current stage, several British aircraft will take off from a British base this evening carrying British paratroopers. The British aircraft, together with Egyptian aircraft, will drop British, Egyptian, and UAE paratroopers and will attack enemy lines. This operation will be carried out simultaneously with the naval landing operation.

The main idea of the seven-day Bright Star 95 maneuvers is to force the enemy troops to retreat to international borders after the hostile forces have occupied a part of the territory of the neighboring countries.

Further on 1st Phase

NC1111155695 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1348 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Western Alexandria, 11 Nov (MENA)— Lieutenant General Majdi Hitatah, armed forces chief of staff, attended the first phase of the Bright Star '95 exercise today. Forces from five countries—Egypt, the United States, France, Britain, and the United Arab Emirates [UAE]—are taking part in the exercise, making it one of the world's largest maneuvers.

Some 56,000 troops, 800 aircraft, and 30 naval crafts, including 19 large vessels led by the U.S. aircraft carrier "USS America" are taking part in the seven-day exercise. Mechanized infantry units, armored vehicles, commandos, paratroopers, and electronic warfare units are participating in the training.

In statements to journalists, Lt. Gen. Hitatah emphasized that these maneuvers are useful for all the participants and noted the complete coordination among the forces in the various stages of training, which provide great experience for everyone.

He said that increasing the number of participant countries adds to the benefits of the exercise. He added that the number of U.S. forces taking part in this year's maneuvers are greater than that of any other training outside the United States.

He expressed his hope that more countries will participate in the forthcoming Bright Star '97 maneuvers, after the success of this year's exercise.

He noted that new weapons will be used for the first time, such as the anti-armor Apache helicopter.

He emphasized the competence of the Egyptian armed forces, which used U.S. and French naval landing equipment with great success.

He said the exercise involves many air sorties, totalling more than 1,500 Egyptian sorties alone.

The main premise behind the exercise is based on the theory that a country attacks the territories of a neighboring country seeking its resources, and then occupies part of its territories. The attacked country seeks help from a friendly country to force the enemy to retreat to international borders.

In the first phase, which began this morning, Egyptian and British aircraft jointly dropped Egyptian, British,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and UAE paratroopers. British planes took off from one if its bases yesterday to carry out the air-drop operation simultaneously with the Egyptian aircraft.

This was followed by a huge naval landing operation preceded by an attack by commando units on enemy positions on the shore. The preparations paving the way for the naval landing operation were carried out by 2,300 troops representing Egyptian, U.S., and French forces, using advanced amphibious equipment.

Helicopters also dropped infantry forces to support the naval landing. This was followed by an Egyptian and U.S. forces' air-drop operation using helicopters to support the attack on the enemy forces.

General Stephen Arnold, commander of the 3d U.S. Army and leader of the U.S. forces participating in the exercise, praised the close cooperation among the participant countries that he saw today. He asserted that there is excellent military cooperation with Egypt.

He expressed his hope that other countries, especially the NATO and Arab Gulf countries, will join future Bright Star maneuvers.

This is the seventh round of Bright Star maneuvers, which began in 1993 through joint Egyptian-U.S. training. France, Britain, and the UAE joined the maneuvers this year.

Second Day of Exercises

NC1211141295 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—"Bright Star 95" exercises, which involve Egypt, United Arab Emirates, the United States, France, and Britain, continued its second day running.

Today's exercises involved the landing of three Egyptian infantry, tank, and artillery companies on a coast by friendly ships. The Egyptian and American aircraft attacked four hostile airbases, two airports, and air defense and electronic war units all occupied by the aggressor state.

As part of the operation, two American "KC-135's" took off from the West Cairo airbase, flew for four hours, and then refueled 40 Egyptian and American aircraft over the Mediterranean off the Egyptian coast. Of these aircraft, 20 were Egyptian "F-16's", one Phantom, and 20 American "F-15", "F-14", and "F-18" aircraft.

The fuel capacity of the American "KC-135" is estimated at 120,000 liters. It can fly nonstop at a speed exceeding 800 km/hour for 15 hours. The refueling process takes the aircraft only three minutes.

The main idea of the "Bright Star" exercise is based on the assumption that a state commits aggression against a neighboring state to control its wealth. The victimized state requests assistance from friendly and fraternal countries to repulse the aggression and force the enemy to retreat to international lines.

The third day of the exercise, Monday, will involve air landing in the area of Jabal Hamzah. Forces from Britain, United Arab Emirates, and Egypt will stage joint patrols. Moreover, the Egyptian and British forces will engage in an exchange of artillery fire.

British Foreign Secretary Rifkind Visits

Arrives in Cairo

NC1011190195 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind arrived here this evening on an official one-day visit to Egypt. President Mubarak is scheduled to receive the British foreign secretary tomorrow for talks on bilateral ties and current world issues.

During his visit, Rifkind will hold talks with Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid and Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa. The British official was met at the airport by Assistant Foreign Minister Ra'uf Ghunaym.

Meets Musa

NC1111115395 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Husni Mubarak received the British Foreign Secretary and delegation members accompanying him at the Presidential Palace this morning. Attending the meeting also were Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and the British ambassador to Egypt. After the 75-minute meeting, Foreign Minister Musa welcomed the British foreign secretary's visit to Egypt. He said that this is the first visit to Egypt by Foreign Secretary Rifkind. He noted that the British guest and President Mubarak discussed the peace process, the situation in the region in light of Rifkand's tour, the latest developments in Israel, and implementation of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement. They also examined developments in the Syrian track, the situation in Bosnia and Iraq, the upcoming Barcelona conference on cooperation between the EU and Mediterranean countries, and bilateral relations.

Musa pointed out that Egypt is interested in Egyptian-British relations in various economic and political spheres.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Responding to a question by our correspondent on 'Arafat's visit to Cairo tomorrow and the possibility of holding a four-way summit among Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine, Musa said that President 'Arafat will visit Cairo tomorrow and that arrangements are under way for this visit. Regarding the four-way summit, he said we did not discuss this issue but it is possible.

British Foreign Secretary Rifkind said that his meeting with President Mubarak was important, noting Egypt's effective contribution to the peace process. He said that Egypt holds a comprehensive view that contributes to advancing the peace process in the region. He noted that the talks also dealt with a number of important political issues and that he must specifically mention t-he upcoming Barcelona conference between the EU and Mediterranean countries. He stressed that Egypt's participation in the Barcelona conference is significant. He pointed out that British-Egyptian relations are very good and that both countries cooperate in the sphere of defense and joint training. He noted that Egypt and Britain conduct joint military exercises along with three other countries and that these exercises have actually begun.

In response to a question on his view of peace in the Middle East after the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin, Rifkind said: I believe that in Israel they asserted that Shim'on Peres and his colleagues will seek to give a boost to the peace process. He said: I visited Damascus two days ago and met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and I believe he is interested in the resumption of talks between Israel and Syria.

Musa, Rifkind on Mubarak Meeting

NC1111151795 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Husni Mubarak received British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind and his delegation this morning in the presidential office. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and the British ambassador in Cairo.

Following the 75-minute meeting, 'Amr Musa welcomed the British secretary, remarking that it is the secretary's first visit to Egypt. He added that the British secretary discussed with President Mubarak the peace process, the situation in the region in light of the secretary's tour of the region that preceded his visit to Cairo, as well as the latest developments in Israel and the implementation of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement. He added that developments along the Syrian track, the situation in Bosnia and Iraq, the Barcelona conference on cooperation between the European Union and Mediterranean states, in addition to bilateral ties, were also discussed.

Musa pointed out that Egypt is highly interested in Egyptian-British relations in the various economic and political spheres.

The foreign minister was asked by our radio correspondent about 'Arafat's visit to Cairo tomorrow and the possibility of holding a quadripartite summit with the participation of Jordan, Israel, and Palestine. He replied that it is possible for president Yasir 'Arafat to visit Cairo tomorrow and that arrangements are being made for it. As far as the quadripartite summit is concerned, we have not discussed the matter, he said, adding, however, that such a summit is possible.

The British foreign secretary stated that his meeting with President Mubarak was important. He noted Egypt's effective participation in the peace process and pointed out that Egypt has a panoramic vision that helped push the regional peace process ahead.

The British secretary added that the meeting also discussed a number of important political issues. What we would like to note specifically is the upcoming Barcelona conference between the European Union and the Mediterranean states, he said, affirming that Egypt's participation in that conference will be significant.

Malcolm Rifkind reiterated that Egyptian-British relations are very good and that there is cooperation on defense and in joint exercises. He noted that Egypt and Britain are currently participating in joint exercises with three other countries.

Regarding the future of Middle East peace after the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin, Rifkind replied that officials in Israel have affirmed that Peres and his colleagues will seek to give new momentum to the peace process. He added: I visited Damascus two days ago and met with President Hafiz al-Asad. I believe he is interested in resuming talks between Israel and Syria.

On the rebuilding of former Yugoslavia, the British foreign secretary said that a meeting will be held in London once political matters are settled. Rebuilding Bosnia entirely and completing the reconstruction of other regions through international financial institutions will be on the agenda of that conference, he noted.

Touching on Britain's viewpoint on freeing the Middle East of weapons of mass destruction, Rifkind said that his country strongly hopes Israel will join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and that it regrets that it has not yet joined. He stated that Britain strongly rejects news that Iraq is seeking to develop destructive

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

biological weapons. The British secretary remarked that he believes the NPT is very important.

Asked whether it is time to lift the sanctions on Iraq, the British secretary expressed the belief that it is not yet time to lift the sanctions and that these sanctions must continue until Iraq responds to all Security Council resolutions. He added that concealing Iraq's biological program indicates that they have been deceiving the United Nations over the past three years. This raises questions about other programs the Iraqi regime might be hiding, he said. Rifkind commented that it is now possible to use oil sale profits to meet the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people. We do not want the Iraqi people's suffering to continue, Rifkind said, adding that it is possible to provide medical, humanitarian, and food aid to the Iraqi people, provided that Saddam will assure us that the assistance will reach the people and not the Army.

Touching on the Congress decision to move the [U.S.] Embassy to Jerusalem, the British secretary said: We do not agree with this decision. We believe that the issue of Jerusalem is very sensitive and that it is part of the third stage of negotiations. He called on the world community not to take any measure to further complicate the issue. He expressed his pleasure that the U.S. Administration has rejected the Congress decision.

Regarding the agreement signed on Bosnia, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said: We support this agreement because it is important. It is high time for all the parties to agree and for the state of Bosnia to be recognized by Serbia and others. They must all coexist, but not at the expense of Bosnia. There must be an end to the so-called greater Serbia. We need an agreement to resume our relations with all the parties, including Belgrade.

Mubarak, al-Qadhdhafi View Developments on Phone

NC1011193295 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this evening telephoned Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution. They discussed the latest developments in the Middle East as well as a number of issues of interest to the two countries.

Foreign Minister Musa Lectures on Foreign Policy

NC1211202095 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa delivered a lecture at Cairo University's Economics and Political Science Department this evening in which he discussed Egypt's Arab, Islamic, and international policy. This policy is primarily based on the fact that Egypt is an Arab, Islamic, and African country in the heart of the Middle East, in the Mediterranean basin, and is centrally located from Europe, Asia, and Africa, he said. Egypt is also a developing country with interests generally conforming with those of the Third World, he added.

On Egypt's relations with the Arab countries, Musa explained that Egypt has major interests and unbreakable links with the Arab world. It is certainly in our interest that the Arab world keeps its interests cohesive, preserves its identity, and gives priority to cooperation among its countries, he said.

Musa added: The question today is "to be or not to be" as Arabs. Are all Arab countries, big and small, prepared to preserve this identity amid the new regional life that is now being shaped? This is the first challenge, he said.

Musa said that the Middle East peace process has become part of the contemporary structure and a main strategic element of today's world, and it must be understood accordingly. He added: This, however, never means that we should not stand firmly to rectify a certain course as long as we do not object to the framework of peace itself and acknowledge its importance and necessity.

He noted that important progress has been made in the peace process. This is reflected, Musa noted, in the Israeli withdrawal from the Palestinian cities of Gaza, Jericho, Nabulus, Qalqilyah, Ramallah, Hebron, and others, and from areas around them, within the context of the so-called interim or temporary self-rule. This is the third [as received] challenge.

The foreign minister explained that the third challenge is related to regional cooperation and arrangements. These are represented in the five issues on the table of the multilateral negotiations coming from the Madrid peace conference. They are: refugees, arms limitation, water, environment, and economic cooperation. These issues are substantially and methodolgically linked to each others, he said.

Discussing regional economic cooperation, the foreign minister said it is part of a larger process, be it the Middle East peace process, international economic cooperation, or cooperation in the Mediterranean basin.

Musa added: These three frameworks make it inevitable to reconsider the process of steering regional economy. With the fall of trade barriers in the foreseeable future in accordance with the GATT agreement, with the domination of market economies, and with the expectation that peace will be established in the region, it becomes

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

logical for us to expect a change and development in the region.

He explained that this is not only related to Israel or to Arab-Israeli relations. Although this is part of it, it is not the full picture, he said.

If we fail to activate our economy and carry it to the regional and international levels, Egypt will have no life or future, Musa said.

He added: We are facing a serious regional, international, and even national challenge that requires political and economic courage, and this is what we are doing now.

'Amr Musa remarked that the issue of Middle Easternism is confusing if it does not address the economic and political lines that we pursue honestly.

He stated that negotiations are officially underway to enter into a partnership agreement with the European Union. He remarked that this is a very important and central issue that will have a bearing on future economic action in Egypt.

He added that we are on the verge of wider Mediterranean cooperation in the framework of a new forum that embraces 27 states. The meetings of that forum will start in late November by outlining an extensive program for Mediterranean cooperation, he said.

Along with this, there is a partnership agreement with the United States, he said, noting that Egypt is also undertaking efforts with brother Arabs to invigorate inter-Arab cooperation in the economic fields, which is still behind the level required to face today's challenges.

The foreign minister said that if there is an economic trade in the context of the peace process, there are certain conditions that govern it. This is what we explained clearly in Casablanca and Amman, Musa said, adding that Egypt has invited all to come to Cairo late next year, as it will be time for the Egyptian economy to take prominence in these regional activities.

'Amr Musa affirmed that Egypt is capable of accepting the challenge to partake of the planning and building of the future and coping with all international changes, while it safeguards its traditions and respects its religion. This comes as a result of assuming constructive positions and engaging in serious dialogues without terrorizing the society intellectually or assuming extremist stances, he said.

Musa added that there is no place for the inactive or the weak in the future world, which will be governed by the free economic philosophy.

The foreign minister said that the goals of Egyptian foreign policy, as we are on the threshold of a new world, can be summed up in the following points:

1. To consolidate the Middle East peace process and enhance its stability until the Palestinian people can establish their state on their land and determine their own destiny and until peace agreements are reached in the Syrian and Lebanese tracks;

2. To achieve full Arab reconciliation because the current situation in the Arab world is regrettable;

3. To rectify the image of Islam worldwide, since we cannot let some people use this pure religion in pursuit of personal benefits and because we cannot have non-Muslims taking an unjustifiable hostile attitude toward us;

4. To lay down new social relations worldwide that protect the distinctive traditions of the Arab world and the developing societies; and,

5. To achieve a breakthrough in economic and social development in Egypt in cooperation with all the forums and groups to which we belong.

Mubarak Meets 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee

NC1311092295 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0850 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and PLO Executive Committee members at the Presidential Office this morning. Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa was present.

President 'Arafat will brief President Mubarak on the issues discussed by the Executive Committee last night. Chief among these issues are the Palestinian elections, Palestinian-Arab relations, and the peace process following the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and the recent U.S. Congress decision transferring the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Musa on Mubarak-'Arafat Meeting

NC1311124895 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1120 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has said that President Husni Mubarak discussed with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and the PLO Executive Committee members today the outcome of the committee's meetings in Cairo and the implementation of the Palestinian-Israeli accord.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In a statement today the Egyptian foreign minister added that President Mubarak expressed his and Egypt's pleasure at the start of the Israeli withdrawal from the city of Janin, noting that it is "the first step" toward implementing the Palestinian-Israeli Taba accord. He added that it was an important and very good step, which has clear significance.

Musa said the Israeli pullout from Palestinian cities and villages in the West Bank and Gaza will continue until the end of December. He added that the withdrawal process will be completed in the last week of December so that Palestinian elections can be held on 20 January.

Musa said that during his meeting with 'Arafat and the PLO Executive Committee members President Mubarak stressed Egypt's continuing support for the Israeli-Palestinian track of the negotiations so that the Palestinians may regain their land and attain their rights.

Asked about a date for the PLO's meeting with Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] leaders, Musa said: This meeting will be held in Cairo but we do not know when.

Romanian President Ion Iliescu Visits

On Peace Process, Embassy Move

NC1311125895 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0605 GMT 13 nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—Romanian President Ion Iliescu has expressed his great appreciation of Egypt's role in the peace process in the Middle East. In a statement to AL-AHRAM published today he stressed that President Husni Mubarak's participation in the funeral of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin won the appreciation of all peoples. He noted that the big turnout by world leaders expressed their decision that it is necessary to invigorate and back up every effort to continue the peace process so that Rabin's politically motivated assassination may not turn into a negative development and halt the peace process. He expressed his belief that this is the most realistic method and the only way to meet the interests of the peoples of the region.

Asked about the U.S. Congress' decision to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Iliescu voiced his belief in the need for the U.S. party to consider Arab sensitivities.

Regarding the U.S. peace plan for Bosnia, Iliescu said we back any overture from within or without Bosnia to achieve peace in Bosnia and Yugoslavia. He added: We appreciate the U.S. interest in and the efforts made to stop the fighting there. He also noted that this is an extremely positive step. He said it is better to negotiate and discuss the stances of all the parties instead of continuing the killing of people there. On achieving peace and security in Europe, he said there is an opportunity to strengthen the new framework of relations among the European countries, particularly after the disappearance of two opposing blocs. He stressed that the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe is a framework expressing the desire of the European countries to promote free relations among themselves.

Musa on Talks

NC1311121295 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1130 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has clarified that the session of talks between President Husni Mubarak and Romanian President Ion Iliescu dealt with bilateral relations, which were described as growing relations.

He added that the talks will resume this afternoon. He noted that the Balkans will be among the topics Presidents Mubarak and Iliescu will discuss.

Musa pointed out that the trade balance between Egypt and Romania will exceed $0.5 billion this year. He emphasized that bilateral trade exchange "is strong and developing" and that the status of joint investment and projects is "good." He expressed his hope that trade exchange between Egypt and Romania will reach the $1-billion mark. Musa noted that agreements will be signed at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry today.

Cairo Calls For New Talks Between UN, Iraq

NC0911214195 Paris AFP in English
1906 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Nov 9 (AFP) — Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa called for the "new discussions" on Thursday [9 November] between the United Nations and Iraq over a UN resolution allowing Iraq to export a limited amount of oil to buy food.

"There must be new discussions between the UN and Iraqi authorities to arrive on the details of this resolution to arrive at an accord acceptable to both sides for its implementation," Musa said in an interview with AFP.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has also called recently for a "formula" to relieve the suffering of the Iraqi people.

UN resolution 986, passed in April, allows Iraq to export almost a billion dollars in oil per trimester in order to buy food and medicine, all under strict international control. But Iraq has refused the offer.

"Opening a discussion on the issue would be a first step on the way to reducing the suffering of the Iraqi people,"

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

said Musa, whose country was elected on Wednesday for a two-year stint on the Security Council.

"Iraqis are living under dire circumstances and we feel we must work to avert a catastrophe," he said.

Baghdad repeated on Wednesday its refusal of the resolution, which it called an infringement on its sovereignty because of conditions it places on distributing food.

Part of the food and supplies must be sent to northern Iraq, which is controlled by Kurdish factions, according to the resolution.

The Security Council renewed on Wednesday the embargo imposed on Iraq since its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, saying Baghdad has not been completely forthcoming about its weapons programs.

Meanwhile, Musa said he felt the Security Council was not the appropriate place to solve the Lockerbie crisis between Libya and Britain, the United States and France.

"This matter should be treated calmly between Libya and the three western countries, not in a new debate in the council," he said.

Musa also said "Egypt's next diplomatic move" against Sudan, which Cairo accuses of backing an attempt to kill Mubarak in June in Addis Ababa, "would come in investigations by the Organization of African Unity crisis prevention mechanism in mid-December."

Musa Discusses POW's, Iraq, Other Issues

NC1311103595 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2337 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has said that the status of Jerusalem can never be decided upon by a unilateral decision by Israel or any other country; it must be determined through negotiations, as agreed upon in Oslo. In a dialogue with students of the Political Science and Economics College held by the dean of the college, Professor 'Ali-al-Din Hilal, tonight, Musa said the U.S. decision to transfer the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem was out of place and untimely, adding that this is a Congress decision; we have no intention of recognizing it. He noted that the U.S. Administration did not recognize this decision and said that perhaps it was made for election reasons. He expressed his regret that such important and serious issues are tampered with in this way. He said: In our opinion this decision has no value and we hope that by 1999 we will have reached an agreement among the Palestinians, Israelis, and ourselves on the status of Jerusalem.

Discussing the Egyptian POW's issue, Musa said that an Israeli commander admitted having committed these crimes, which contravene international law. We immediately submitted an official request to the Israelis to conduct an investigation to discover the details of this issue from the start. This investigation must be conducted or the issue will hinder many other issues. He added that along with the investigations, trials must be heard and compensation and apologies must be mentioned. These issues are being discussed and both parties are making serious moves to achieve prompt results. He pointed out that we have achieved no specific results although contacts were held four days ago on this issue. We hope Israel knows the Egyptian Government and popular stance on the crime against Egyptian POW's. He said that investigations must be conducted as quickly as possible and that the defendants in this crime must be tried quickly, stressing that Egypt's stance is unequivocal and irreversible.

Regarding the peace process in the Middle East, Musa said there can be no going back on peace, no country can deviate from this course. He pointed out that acting Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has been the primary Israeli negotiator since the Oslo talks, even before that, and he understands the dimensions, implications, and problems involved in the peace process. He stressed that Yitzhaq Rabin's departure and Peres' assumption of power will not affect the known Israeli course. He noted that Peres is expected to resume the peace talks soon, adding: "We cannot wait, because the Palestinians in the occupied territories can wait no longer." He noted that there is an agreed upon timetable that must be honored, regardless of who is Israeli prime minister. He said the Israeli Government and the Arab parties are responsible for implementing their agreements. He pointed out that the peace process cannot depend on one person and expressed his confidence in Peres' capabilities and cooperation to complete the peace process. He called for quickly and honestly implementing the agreements, including withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the Palestinian towns and villages that the Israelis agreed to evacuate and to enable the Palestinians to hold their elections under international supervision as agreed upon in January.

Discussing the Damascus Declaration and Egyptian-Iranian relations, Musa said the Declaration has nothing to do with and is not an obstacle to Egyptian-Iranian relations. The Iran issue is separate and has other implications, adding that no matter what the differences, Iran is a regional country and we have numerous ties with it. He said these ties must be positive because negative ties would sow seeds of doubt in the hearts of many in the region and would create tension.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Discussing Arab-Iranian relations, Musa said that talk about this issue hinges on Iran's stance on the three occupied United Arab Emirates' islands of Tunb al-Kubra, Tunb al-Sughra, and Abu Musa, on Iran's relations with the existing Islamic Movement, and on its stance on the Islamic world. He said there is no doubt that Iran is part of the Islamic world, and we cannot deny this, nor can we deny that it is a major country in the Middle East. We will not disavow the good relations that we have had with Iran in the past or even future relations, which can be good. He said that doubts in the hearts of many in the region can be dispelled but this depends on Iran.

Discussing Egyptian-Sudanese relations, Musa said these relations are longstanding and must continue. He noted that the Egyptians and Sudanese must safeguard these relations. Should the Sudanese regime seek to terrorize Egyptian society and attempt to commit aggression against the head of the state, this would be unacceptable. This point, he said, must be settled before discussing relations in other frameworks. He added: Despite our rejection of and opposition to this behavior by the Sudanese regime, Egypt's stance on Sudan, its future, and territorial integrity remains firm. We will not agree to the partitioning of Sudan or to letting south Sudan be lost. But this could happen because of the Sudanese political regime's policy. He asked if it is reasonable for a country like Sudan, which is supposed to focus on development, since it is very poor, to terrorize neighboring countries. He said Sudan must return to its senses and give up this absurd policy, which will only destroy it.

Regarding Arab reconciliation, Musa noted that there are no developments in this issue, but all the Arab countries call for reconciliation. He said that President Mubarak calls for reconciliation because it is an indispensable basis for the Arab world and people in general to face the many challenges. He noted that Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid likewise calls for reconciliation for the same purpose. He stressed that every Arab country must have the issue of reconciliation on its agenda, because reconciliation demonstrates a sense of responsibility and we must rush toward Arab reconciliation.

Discussing Iraq, Musa said the situation of the Iraqi people is worrying, as are threats to Iraqi sovereignty. He said that Iraq made a huge mistake that should not have been made. Since this mistake was made and the Arab and international communities stood against it and imposed sanctions on Iraq, we hope that some understanding will be reached between the United Nations and Iraq on implementing the resolution on reducing the sanctions, thus relieving some of the pressure and harshness of life faced by the Iraqi people. He said it is the responsibility of all the parties to remove the pressure from and ease the harsh circumstances of the Iraqi people. But the bigger responsibility falls on the shoulders of the Iraqi regime.

Police Arrest Muslim Brotherhood Candidate

NC1011190095 Paris AFP in English 1658 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Cairo, Nov 10 (AFP)—A member of the Muslim Brotherhood running in legislative elections was arrested Friday [10 November] for holding an anti-government demonstration, police said.

'Abd-al-Quddus, a member of the journalists' union, was arrested along with a student and a lawyer. They were accused of "organizing a demonstration in the Bulaq Abd-al-'Ila district and for chanting slogans hostile to the state," police said.

Several hundred people participated in the march in central Cairo in support of al-Quddus after Friday prayers, witnesses said. [passage omitted]

Candidate Released

NC1011202595 Paris AFP in English 1950 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Cairo, Nov 10 (AFP)—A member of the Muslim Brotherhood was arrested and briefly detained on Friday [10 November] as he campaigned for Egypt's legislative elections, police said.

Muhammad Abd-al-Quddus, a member of the journalists' union, was arrested along with a student and a lawyer. All three were later released, police said. They were accused of "organizing a demonstration and chanting slogans hostile to the state," police said.

Several hundred people took part in the march in central Cairo in support of Abd-al-Quddus after Friday prayers, witnesses said.

Police said he would be interrogated by the state prosecutor on Saturday. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Libya

BBC Radio Interviews al-Qadhdhafi

LD1111202495 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 2017 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Interview with leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by unidentified BBC Radio Arabic Service correspondent; place and date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Correspondent] Brother leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, at the start of this interview I convey to you from London greetings from Gamon McLellan, head of the [BBC] Arabic Service, and Hasan Mu'awad, editor of Current Affairs, who wished so much to conduct the interview with you himself. He would like to know — and this is not for the radio station but for our own information — if you listen to us. Are you pleased with us? Do you have any comments about the radio? This will not be broadcast but it is for them to listen to and to know your opinion.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Of course, I like the Arab broadcasters on this radio as regards their mastery of the Arabic language, their verbal skills, and the administration of the various programs. But as an Arab I would not work for Radio London [BBC] or Radio America [VOA] because I would have to say the words of the enemy, words against my nation in order to make a living. One can make a living without having to say what he does not want. But, as far as the broadcasters are concerned, I like their ability. But the radio station itself has been losing credibility with time. I personally listen to this radio sometimes. But I no longer believe what it says about any another country because I hear what it says about Libya and it is not true. I know that it is 100 percent lies. Someone else outside Libya may think that something happened in Libya. It is possible for something which is 100 percent lies to be broadcast by this radio station and I may listen to it and believe it. But because I saw what was said about Libya, [I know that] a lot of it is lies, 100 percent, and did not happen and so it is possible that anything we heard about any other country did not happen at all and is lies 100 per cent. Therefore, we suspect the veracity of....

[Correspondent, interrupting] Would you give an example of this so that the colleagues in London will understand and avoid this in the future?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] There are many examples. Sometimes they talk about events in Libya. A few years back they talked about an air bombing raid and we laughed at it. It was a police explosives dump, police explosives, which are used for decorations. [sentence as heard] It exploded once. We said a warehouse exploded. Why did they say it was air bombing and there was rebellion? I know this was lies. This means that the radio station has lost its credibility. When we hear of bombing in other countries or a coup in other countries and (?troop) movements... [pauses] It is not true and what they said about Libya they would say about any other country. A radio station must be impartial and seek the truth. But what happened is that it is misleading — it has belonged to British intelligence since World War II, since the creation of this radio station [words indistinct]. At that time it belonged to intelligence.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency, thank you in my own name, in the name of my colleagues, and in the name of the head of the Arabic Service for allowing us to record this interview. We will listen to it. I can only promise you that we have always done our best to find the truth. And we have always sought the truth from Libyan officials themselves. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity which I will always treasure. Hasan Mu'awwad will be envious. [Al-Qadhdhafi laughs] I am going to tell him that His Excellency Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has agreed to give another interview, God willing.

The main event in the world today is the fact that more than 50 heads of states are heading for Israel to take part in the funeral of Yitzhaq Rabin. I noticed during my visit that Libyan media reported his death but no official comment was made by your excellency, by the foreign minister, or by any other Libyan official. Why did your excellency not make an official statement and what are the reasons?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] As far as I am concerned, and as far as history can recall, regardless of the fuss being made today, Rabin was the bloodiest butcher in the world and terrorist no. 1 in the Middle East. His hands, feet, and mouth were all stained with Arab blood and with the blood of Arab children. [Words indistinct]. I am astonished about the fuss they are making about peace. What peace are they talking about? What did Rabin do for peace? Did he create a democratic state like in South Africa? [Words indistinct]

[Correspondent] But isn't it possible to say that peace comes in stages and it is not possible to expect everything to happen at once, taking into account that Rabin was the only Israeli prime minister to take long steps on the road to peace?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No step has been achieved on the road to peace. Rabin did not achieve any step. But the Arabs meekly ran to meet him and knelt before him. He Rabin did not offer anything. He and his forces are still on the Jordanian border. Israeli settlements are on the Jordanian border. The withdrawal operation with which they misled public opinion is not the withdrawal

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

of Israeli forces from the cities of the West Bank. It is a withdrawal from streets and squares, and making camps outside the cities under the Israeli occupation's complete control. This occupation remains forever.

Under [UN Security Council] Resolution 242, there is nothing called a Palestinian administration, and there is no mention of the Palestinians. The Palestinians [words indistinct] to wait at the border. What step did Rabin take? Do we glorify the Haganah [Jewish defense force], terrorism, and murderers? The world has been turned on its head with its feet in the air. What step did Rabin take for peace? There is no step [word indistinct] There are things which prove Israel's hegemony over all the Arab land from 1948 to 1967.

As for 'Arafat's (?steps) and so on, [Bassam] al-Shak'ah [former mayor of Nabulus and now secretary of the Palestinian National Council] was better than him when he was the mayor of a municipality. 'Arafat has become the chief of the Israeli police in the West Bank and Gaza. That is his job.

[Correspondent] It is expected that Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will take over as prime minister. Do you think his appointment will bring anything different to the Arab-Israeli dispute and to the peace talks?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] As far as I am concerned, all terrorists are the same. I do not want to go into the details about this, it is not important. However, as far as I am concerned, a foreign power is occupying Palestine from the [Jordan] River to the [Mediterranean] Sea. It is also occupying Syrian and Lebanese territories. Israel is a terrorist power, planted by imperialism in the Middle East to terrorize Arab peoples and to prevent them from uniting and making progress. As far as I am concerned, all terrorists are the same because they are all enemies of Arabs. They are even the enemies of the Jews. They brought the Jews to Palestine to create a Jewish state in the Promised Land; it is the promised land for their death.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency the Brother Colonel, may we move now to Libyan-British relations? Are there any contacts under way? At what level are they held, and what are their nature?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] To my knowledge — although I am not interested in politics or diplomacy, because the revolution is my cause — there are [word indistinct] contacts which have been made public. Contacts have taken place on a number of occasions in Cairo between Libyan and British diplomats. The main concern of the British is that they wanted Libya to relieve them of the IRA [Irish Republican Army] which recently, a year and a half ago, carried the battle to the heart of London. The Government of Great Britain started to look for a safe place in the heart of London in which to meet. [Words indistinct] the IRA, and Britain's concern was to keep Libya away from the IRA at any cost. It wanted information free of charge. That is characteristic of British governments.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency the Brother Colonel, we have learned that the under secretary of the Libyan Foreign Affairs Ministry for European affairs and prominent British diplomats took part in the contacts, which included a meeting in Cairo which dealt with the issue of the IRA. The Libyan envoy to the United Nations announced that Libya was about to hand over a list of weapons provided to the IRA. Has this list been handed over? If Libya made demands in return, could you please acquaint us with them?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] In fact, I am not concerned with these details. We are talking about a principled stand. Moreover, Libya does not have a ministry. There is a secretary for a General People's Committee which is elected by the People's Congresses. The news you heard from the mass media is (definitely) not true.

[Correspondent] Excellency and Brother Leader, does Libya have any demands to make of Britain? If so, what are they?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] First, Britain must respect international law. It must respect the Montreal Treaty on the trial of people suspected of causing [criminal damage] to civil aviation. This treaty should be applied to the two Libyan citizens [suspected of involvement in the Lockerbie crash].

Britain should abandon its colonialist bullying. It should abandon it insistence on their [the Lockerbie suspects] trial in Scotland because that violates Libyan law, international law, and the Montreal Treaty. Furthermore, there is no extradition treaty between Libya and Britain. The Montreal Treaty is very clear on this matter: it stipulates that people accused of something like this should be tried in the country of their residence. As the two accused are in Libya, the Montreal treaty allows for their trial in Libya. Therefore, why there is so much stubbornness [on the part of Britain]?

[Correspondent] You have always maintained the innocence of the two Libyans [the Lockerbie suspects]. It seems that the stands on this issue have become intransigent. Would a compromise be acceptable in order to reconcile the positions of the two sides?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Of course. Libya has presented many solutions, (?among) them a trial in a neutral country. All the countries in the world have supported Libya

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

except Britain and the United States who are against this international consensus.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency the Brother Colonel, do you think that the sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council on Libya have had a great and negative impact on the country? From my few ordinary observations in Libya since I arrived I can see that the economic situation is prospering and I do not see harsh consequences — except for the flight difficulties. Are there great impacts? Would you like to tell us about them?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The air embargo has greatly affected us. It has affected the safety of civil aviation in Libya, which is a very serious matter. Two years ago one of our planes crashed with 150 passengers on board, due to the shortage of spare parts thanks to the so-called Security Council resolution, the [words indistinct] Security Council which is controlled by the United States, Britain, and France. [Word indistinct] technicians from any country have been banned from coming to check Libyan planes to make sure that they are fit for flying. Actually, this is a crime perpetrated by the so-called Security Council. [passage omitted]

This is a crime uglier than Lockerbie. Lockerbie was carried out by an irresponsible person. The United States [word indistinct] and signs it? What is this? We are living in a jungle [words indistinct]. They are going against the United Nations and its Charter and every day they modify this charter. Is it possible, then, that despite the fact that there is a Security Council resolution banning any country from moving its embassy or any other [diplomatic] representation to Jerusalem — they have to stay in Tel Aviv, according to a resolution issued by the Security Council — the U.S. Congress resolved to transfer their embassy [to Jerusalem], as if the were no resolution from the Security Council! This is mockery, scorning the international organization. [passage omitted]

Security Council resolutions are implemented only against Iraq, Somalia, Libya, and Yugoslavia and not against the Israelis. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Your Excellency, Brother Colonel. I would now like to turn to the issue of sending back the Palestinians. I noted your speech in which you explained your position. I use the words sending back [i'adah] to describe the process instead of deportation [i'b'ad] or any other word. When the time limit you gave expires, how will the situation look, I wonder? Will there be a solution? Will the sending back process resume?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Pardon me, but I would like to go back to the previous question.

[Correspondent] Go ahead.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] One is enraged by the scornful attitude of the Americans toward the Arabs, as represented in the U.S. Congress decision to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. Do you know that the same day Saudi Arabia signed one of the biggest deals of our time in the interest of the United States, to save the U.S. economy? It was as if nothing had happened and as if the United States could gain something out of such attitude toward the Arabs!. [passage omitted]

With all American insolence, the U.S. Congress meets and issues a decision to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, rewarding the Arabs and Saudi Arabia! They know that Saudi Arabia, at least from a religious point of view and so on, is sensitive regarding the issue of Jerusalem and because of its position in the Islamic world, Saudi Arabia has to be on the side of Jerusalem and oppose efforts to turn it into a Jewish capital. Look at the slap in the face they dealt! A slap and a deal [saf'a wa safq'a]! [laughs] The Saudis concluded a deal with the Americans and receive a slap! [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Yes, Brother Colonel, I go back to the issue of the Palestinians. [passage omitted]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] Egypt talks about a six-month period, Brother 'Ismat Abd-al-Majid [secretary-general of the Arab League] talks about a three-month period. What is [words indistinct]? One gives three months and the other gives six months. But after this period we cannot deny the Palestinians the right to return to their homeland. At the end of this period you will see the al-Salum [border checkpoint] with a 35,000-strong Palestinian crowd. Egypt will have to accept its responsibility because it is a partner in the so-called peace process and in the settlement of the Palestinian cause. They say Rabin is a peace hero and they mourn him. Come then, here are the Palestinian people still outside their homeland! Which people are they talking about? The Palestinian people are still displaced, banned from returning [to the homeland], and the Palestinian lands are occupied, so are the Syrian lands and the Lebanese lands. [Israeli] planes shell Lebanon and the Arab countries every day. [passage omitted]

The coming months will expose everything when the Palestinians by the thousands move toward Palestine. They will be banned and will stay at al-Salum for a year, two years, ten years. I call on the 300,000 Palestinians in the Syrian refugee camps to move to Palestine, as well as those in Lebanon and Jordan to move toward the border of Palestine so that the whole world can see that the Palestinians are banned from entering their homeland. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency, some people are saying that although that was your national stand on the Palestine issue, it has not been confined only to the Palestinians but extended to others, such as Sudanese citizens.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] There is some confusion about the issue. The question of illegal immigrants is something else. Their repatriation is not something that has been done only this year. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] JANA quoted you as saying that at your talks with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni you reached an agreement, the first of its kind, on resolving the dispute and restoring normal relations between Uganda and Sudan. However, we are not aware of the nature of the agreement, and the Ugandan side has not disclosed any details. Could you gives us any details of the agreement?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I trust President Museveni. President Museveni [words indistinct] in the past when he was struggling for the salvation of Uganda from the [word indistinct] which existed. Naturally, his starting point was Libya. His forces were being trained in Libya, his weapons came from Libya, and we formed an alliance with him until he led the revolutionary movement and reached Kampala. [passage omitted]

On the basis of this background, I have confidence in President Museveni. We always meet, and this dispute with Sudan is disturbing the atmosphere. Sudan is an Arab country. We view the present regime differently from others. The regime in Sudan is a national, Arab, and revolutionary regime. [passage omitted]

This time I [word indistinct] President Museveni and told him that for days we had been talking about this issue and about [SPLA leader John] Garang, and so on [words indistinct]. He gave me a promise that he would define his stand regarding Sudan in a serious and neutral way; meaning that he would be neutral.

[Correspondent] In order for us to have a better understanding, will your excellency the brother colonel allow me to ask whether, for example, he agreed that the [southern Sudanese] rebel forces would not launch any attacks from Ugandan territory and that there would not be any Ugandan movements toward Sudan.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] When Sudan, for example, maintains neutrality regarding any conflict in Uganda — the army of God, the right, Mobutu [words indistinct], and Uganda maintains a neutral stand regarding the conflict in Sudan in view of it being a Sudanese conflict between the north and south and others; when a situation like that develops, the dispute between the countries ends. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Your Excellency the Brother Colonel, we will stay with the African continent. The former Somali president — the transitional president of Somalia, Ali Mahdi Mohamed, said that the Libyan authorities officially recognized the government of [Muhammad] Farah Aidid. Have you officially recognized it?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We have a brotherhood bureau; we call them brotherhood bureaus in Arab countries and people's bureaus in other countries. There is not just one person — there is a group, a committee. There is a committee that administers the people's bureau and a committee that administers the brotherhood bureau. There is a people's committee to administer the brotherhood bureau in Mogadishu. This existed previously. Aidid is now controlling the situation there and has formed a government. Therefore, the brotherhood bureau is dealing with him.

Somalia is not a state which has been created recently for us to recognize or not to recognize. We would have preferred there to have been no dispute among [words indistinct]. However, we are not denying our support for Aidid. The reason for that is clear: Aidid is resisting U.S. imperialism, there was a price on his head, he has defeated America with the aid of his people, forced America to move out, and has become a hero of Somali resistance against U.S. imperialism and direct foreign military intervention in an Arab territory. (?As a state) we would support a person like him.

[Correspondent] It was reported that you are offering financial and military assistance to Farah Aidid's government.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We have no objection, if he requests it. However, that does not mean that we are against the others. We hope that there will be agreement among them all, and we are hoping that power will be handed to the Somali people. All conflict for power would end if the power of all the people was established, and people's congresses and people's committees were established, and if the jamahiri system was adopted. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Your Excellency the Brother Colonel, one of the issues which has attracted attention... [pauses] An itinerary for a visit by World War II veterans to Tubruq was prepared and I have a copy of the itinerary. However, it was cancelled at the last moment without comment from any Libyan official, and there have been many interpretations. Could you explain the situation to us?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] In fact, we have been waiting for that gathering for over a year. [Passage indistinct] Suddenly I heard that they had arrived in Malta at a time when sea

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

travel between Libya and Malta was halted as a result of the assassination of a Palestinian combatant leader....

[Correspondent, interrupting] Fathi al-Shaqaqi.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Yes, Fathi al-Shaqaqi. It was due to that vile incident which was carried out by the Israelis. Naturally, the Israelis can kill and do anything, and they are not accused of being terrorists; only we are terrorists. Arabs are terrorists, but the Israelis can do anything and they are not terrorists.

The Israelis killed him in Malta. Malta has now become a base for aggression and a theater of assassinations. This will affect Malta's tourism and its relations with Arab countries. They have moved the war between the Palestinians and Israelis to Malta. [Passage indistinct]

It seems that [sea] journeys were halted for that reason. It is regrettable that the visit by those people coincided with the postponement and cancellation of travel. [Words indistinct] They could take a flight on the Maltese airline, land in Djerba [in Tunisia], and then take the overland route; they could go from Malta to Barrani in Egypt, or they could take a flight to [words indistinct]. They are welcome. Why didn't they take a plane from Malta to [word indistinct]?

[Correspondent] Your Excellency the Brother Colonel, I know that you are aware that when I ask questions I am not expressing my own views but attitudes in the minds of other people. Reports have been circulating for some time that disturbances have occurred with the Islamists in Libya, particularly in the town of Tabarqah. Some other reports pointed out that an Islamic group with an unknown name issued a statement in Cairo in which it said that it would escalate its campaign against the Libyan authorities. Can you give some clarification on whether there have been such actions and whether Libya has had any problem with Islamists?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] These are among the news items which caused me not to believe anything I hear from the BBC Arabic Section any more. Any news it broadcasts on Libya is untrue including the events you talked about which do not exist. Moreover there are no authorities in Libya to be opposed and if there was an opposition that would be against the Libyan people. Every citizen in Libya who is 18 years or older, whether male or female, is a member of the People's Congress and this gathers all the adult citizens, males and females. These are the people who have the authority. This is like a parliament in another country and this means that it is as if we had 300 parliaments. They are precisely the legislative authority and they issue laws and resolutions and study all the policy. [passage omitted]

There is no government in Libya; there is the people's authority and there is a Jamahiriyah system. These groups fabricated by [word indistinct] fought in Algeria and Egypt. They say that the people do not implement the Islamic Shari'ah. The Islamic Shari'ah is implemented in Libya. This was decided by the congresses and all the punishments are implemented according to the Islamic Shari'ah as the thief gets his hand cut off and [words indistinct]. The one who commits adultery gets 100 lashes. If you want to see these things taking place go to one of the centers and you might see one of the cases [words indistinct] and you will see how the lashing takes place in front of a number of people as mentioned in the Koran.

The Libyan Constitution is the Koran and Libya cannot legislate any legislation which is not in compliance with the texts of the Koran. Thus, what does this Islamist group which is mentioned abroad want in Libya? The Islamic Shari'ah is implemented and the Koran is the Libyan Constitution and "their affairs are a matter of consultations between people" [holy Koran]. All Libyans consult each other in the people's congress. Thus, there is no justification. Libya is against heresy, Zionism, imperialism [words indistinct]. Whoever opposes Libya is someone who fights for Satan and not for God.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency Brother Colonel, I have one last question if you do not wish me to ask you any more questions. The question is when the Tunisian authorities arrested Mohammed Moada of the Socialist Democrats Party [Movement of Socialist Democrats] it was said that this was due to him receiving financing from a neighboring Arab country which is against Tunisian law. Does Libya have any involvement with this and is the reference to Libya?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Apparently the reference is to Libya. Why should we go around in circles. But of course I know Moada well. He is a fighter [monadhil] brother. Whenever he comes to Libya and I have some time I meet him. He brings me the greetings of the brother president Zine [El Abidine Ben Ali]. But at the same time Moada is President Zine's friend and ally and he has cooperated with him a lot. So, I could not understand this arrest matter.

[Correspondent] [passage omitted] Would you like me to ask any more questions?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] You are free on this occasion. I am not afraid of any questions.

[Correspondent] Why did you not personally, or have your foreign minister, make an official statement as soon

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

as you heard of Rabin's assassination? Why did you leave it to JANA to comment on it?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I have nothing to do with the General People's Committees [ministries] or with the country's foreign policy. It is up to 'Umar al-Muntasir, who is the secretary of the General People's Committee for External Liaison and International Cooperation. He was chosen by the General People's Congress which includes secretaries of the Basic People's Congresses, of the People's Committee, and of Vocational Committees. [passage omitted]

Mauritania

President Receives PRC Deputy Foreign Minister

LD1111221395 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] His Excellency President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, received at noon today at the presidential palace the PRC Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Tian Zengpei, who has been paying a visit to our country since 9 November.

The meeting took place in the presence of Ahmed Salem Ould Lekhel, our foreign affairs and cooperation minister, and his excellency the PRC ambassador in Nouakchott.

In a statement to our colleague Baba Sidi 'Abdallah after the meeting, the Chinese minister said that he discussed with the president all aspects of cooperation between our country and the PRC, praising the level of relations between the two countries in this respect.

Tian Zengpei added that he conveyed to the president the regards of his PRC counterpart, Jiang Zemin, and the Chinese people's regards and appreciation for Mauritania. He pointed out at the same time that he sensed the same feeling of love and appreciation from all the Mauritanians whom he has met so far.

The PRC minister predicted a promising future for bilateral Mauritanian-Chinese relations.

Afterward, Tian Zengpei was received by Prime Minister Sidi Mohamed Ould Boubaker, in the presence of the foreign affairs and cooperation minister.

The PRC minister held a session of talks this morning with the foreign affairs minister during which aspects of cooperation between our country and the PRC were reviewed, and all issues of common concern were also discussed.

Army Officers Jailed for Political Activity

LD1111142595 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Mauritania, seven Army officers were charged last night with engaging in illicit political activity. They were then imprisoned. The officers joined a group of 45 civilians arrested two weeks ago in an affair which the authorities in Nouakchott say is related to espionage on behalf of the regime in Iraq.

Accusations Against Pro-Ba'ath Activists Commuted

AB0911192095 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Mauritania, the pro-Ba'ath activists have been lucky. The state prosecutor yesterday commuted to minor offenses the accusations leveled against 45 pro-Ba'ath activists in a case presented by the Mauritanian authorities as spying for the Iraqi regime. The activists, who include many figures close to the Mauritanian regime, were arrested on a two-count charge. The charges are: Participation in an unauthorized association and creation of a political movement contrary to the law on the creation of political parties. The accused were detained in the evening of 7 November after being charged with having secret dealings with a foreign power and membership to a secret organization.

Morocco

Rabat Said Not To Host Jerusalem Minisummit

JN1211161595 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 9 Nov 95 p 34

[FBIS Translated Text] In a statement to AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I, an informed Moroccan source denied that Morocco is preparing to host a mini Arab or Islamic summit to discuss the U.S. Congress' decision on transferring the U.S. embassy to occupied Jerusalem.

The source said that Morocco which criticized the U.S. Congress' decision and viewed it as a factor which obstructs the peace process in the region will spare no efforts to develop an Arab or Islamic stand on Jerusalem if the Arab and Islamic countries express a desire to convene a mini-summit on this issue.

The source said that Morocco has not received yet any official request from the Arab League secretariat and the Organization of Islamic Countries to convene a mini-summit.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Rabat Accused of 'Terrorism' in Western Sahara

LD1211093695 (Clandestine) National Radio of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic in Arabic 2300 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] News from the occupied towns standing fast in facing up to the infiltrating invaders have confirmed that in the past few days and coinciding with preparations for the Moroccan King's forthcoming visit to El Ayoun, the Moroccan authorities have launched a police operation characterized by terrorism, sabotage, interrogation, and arrests which has extended to all Saharan social strata over varying periods of time.

The operation has targeted particularly the sons of our people in steadfast El Ayoun. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Clashes Continue Between Government Forces, 'Rebels'

SPLA Claims Success in Equatoria

EA1011202595 Kampala THE NEW VISION in English 8 Nov 95 pp 1, 2

[Article by Emmy Allio: "SPLA Targets Juba"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [The] Sudanese People's Liberation Army, SPLA, of Colonel John Garang has captured virtually all areas in eastern Equatoria region. It is only the southern Sudanese city of Juba and Torit town that have not fallen, a senior SPLA spokesman, Stephen Wundu has claimed. There were no independent reports of the war situation in southern Sudan.

Speaking from the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, Wundu told THE NEW VISION by telephone that rebel forces have surrounded an estimated 1,000 Sudanese Government forces around Aswa River. The besieged troops have been ordered to surrender, he said. He said SPLA forces have advanced to areas a few miles from Juba after a major battle on Monday [6 November] at Kerepi, near Lobonok, 32 miles from Juba.

"Our troops entered Moli town without any resistance and in many other fronts, the fleeing government forces left behind huge quantities of military hardware, tanks and artilleries. Our next target is Juba and Torit," the spokesman said.

SPLM: Troops 'Control' Equatoria

NC0911173295 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Nairobi, 9 Nov (MENA)—Steven Wundu, official spokesman for the John Garang-led Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], has stressed that the Eastern Equatoria province is now under total control of the SPLM troops, with the exception of the cities of Juba, Torit, and Kapoeta.

In remarks to a MENA correspondent in Kenya, Wundu added that the SPLM troops are heading toward the three cities and are not encountering any resistance from the government army, which is retreating in an unorganized manner. Wundu called on the Sudanese people to ignore President 'Umar al-Bashir's general mobilization announcement. He added that the time has come to bring down al-Bashir's regime. The regime is confused and makes contradictory statements, which indicates that presently there is no organized government in Khartoum.

Commenting on the statement issued by Southern Sudan's Independence Movement [harakat istiqlal janub al-sudan] led by Riek Mashar in which it accused Garang forces of attacking areas under its control, Wundu said: We do not have time to waste with Mashar at the moment. It would be more dignified for him to go to Khartoum directly instead of making futile attempts to divert attention from what is happening in Eastern Equatoria. He stressed that Mashar no longer has any significant troops and most of his troops are now under the command of William Nyuon, who is allied with Garang.

In his statement, Mashar noted that his troops had succeeded in repulsing an attack against four villages under his control after a three-hour battle.

In another development, Bien Rosom [name as received], Eritrean ambassador to Kenya, has denied the Sudanese accusations that Eritrean troops are fighting alongside SPLM troops in southern Sudan. In remarks to the Ugandan paper THE MONITOR in its latest issue, the Eritrean ambassador said that the isolation which the Sudanese regime suffers from has prompted it to make accusations against neighboring countries.

The Eritrean ambassador admitted that his country provides political backing for the Sudanese opposition, but added that it does not interfere in the southern Sudan's war. For four years Eritrea has tried unsuccessfully to improve its relations with Khartoum. He added, this is due to the Sudanese regime's insistence on exporting its extremist ideas to Eritrea.

The Eritrean ambassador accused Sudanese Government troops of launching raids against Eritrean territory and sheltering and training terrorist elements opposed to the Eritrean Government. He added that Sudan is training terrorist elements from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yemen, Eritrean, Ethiopia, and Uganda on its territory. He

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

stressed that so long as the Hasan al-Turabi's front continues to rule Sudan there will be no peace in East Africa, because al-Turabi does not respect states' borders.

Army Denies 'Rebel' Advance

EA1011214695 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The General Command of the People's Armed Forces issued a statement today in which it explained that the UK radio, the BBC, mentioned in a report yesterday that the rebel movement in the south of the country has made an advance against our forces by occupying the Kit area, and is reaching the approaches of Juba.

The General Command confirmed that these reports are unfounded. It confirmed that our forces, in all positions, are cohesive and are rushing to chase the elements of traitors and agents, namely the Ugandan forces and mercenaries, as they run away from the theater of operations and eastern Equatoria.

Similarly, Major General Muhammad Abdullah Uwaydah, chairman of the security and defense committee in the Transitional National Assembly, has confirmed that the Armed Forces are in control of the situation in the Equatoria states, adding that our valiant forces have striven to disperse the scattered remnants of the rebels and mercenaries, and to crush them completely.

Army Said To Control Juba

EA0911200595 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Interview with Major General Muhammad Abdullah Uwaydah, chairman of the Security and Defense Committee of the Transitional National Assembly, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Correspondent] Ladies and gentlemen we continue this program. Yesterday Major General Muhammad Abdullah Uwaydah, the chairman of the TNA's [Transitional National Assembly] security and defense committee returned from Juba where he had gone to familiarize himself with the security situation there. Here is Major General Muhammad Abdullah Uwaydah speaking about this visit:

[Begin Uwaydah recording] Having toured the military zone in Juba, I can say that the situation is not as we are told. The Armed Forces hold the initiative there. Their morale is high. The Mujaheddin continue to proclaim God's greatness against every aggressor and to teach great lessons to anyone attempting to set foot on Sudanese territory. [passage omitted]

Indeed Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni's forces have suffered great losses for being allied to the rebellion and giving it support. Museveni greatly miscalculated politically and militarily by entering Sudanese territory in the operation which he called operation abundant rain [al-Amtar al-Ghazirah]. Our loyal soldiers and pious Mujaheddin in the Popular Defense Force have completely torn apart the rebellion. [passage omitted]

Currently the situation in Juba and Bahr al-Jabal state is calm and stable, the Armed Forces are in control and totally hold the initiative. They have taught the outlaws and their supporters — Ugandans and others — a lesson they will never forget. [end recording]

SPLA on Defensive Movements Around Juba

NC1011220295 London MBC Television in Arabic 2100 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA], has denied that his troops are besieging Juba, a capital city in southern Sudan. In an exclusive telephone interview with MBC, he stated that the current military movements are defensive and that his troops do not receive external backing.

[Begin recording] [Garang, in English] We have always been around Juba. It is not true. I have been hearing in the news that the SPLA's are approaching Juba, that we are about to take Juba. This is only in the press. These are not statements from us. We are fighting a war for justice, for equality for all Sudanese. We are not fighting in order to establish a separatist state in southern Sudan. We have been fighting since 1983 for a united Sudan that is based on equality for all its citizens in the north, in the south, in the west, and in the east. We are fighting to establish a new Sudan. A new Sudan, a Sudan for all ethnic groups and all religions in the country. [preceding sentence in Arabic] What has happened is that the government was going on a dry season offensive, which it always does at this time of the year. We preempted them and we captured (?18) of the government positions. There is no question of us at this stage going on Malakal or on Juba. If the time comes, of course we will go to Malakal and we will go to Juba. But this is not our objective. We are not getting any weapons from anywhere. We capture them from the NIF [National Islamic Front] government at the present time. We have captured tanks, we have captured artillery, we have captured machine guns. We buy from the international black market, of course. But it is not true; the report that we are getting new armament from Western or any other sources is simply not true. [end recording]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

State Declares Mobilization

EA1211171095 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The governor of northern state, Dr. al-Hajj Adam, has declared a state of total mobilization in the state and called on the citizens to participate in the Jihad in defense of the homeland and defeat of the enemies. He said this during a speech to a group of Mujahidin who were on their way to the theater of operations. The group is comprised of students and People's Defense Forces [PDF] in the state. Dr. al-Hajj Adam commended the steadfastness of the Armed Forces and PDF in the theater of operations to crush the agents and mercenary forces.

Meanwhile, the acting governor of northern Darfur state, engineer Adam Ahmad Yusuf, addressed in Fashir town, Mujahidin from Fashir and Umm Kaddadah provinces, who were on their way to the theater of operations. He affirmed that responding to the call of Jihad to defeat the unjust aggression against the country was the obligation of all citizens.

Elsewhere, the first convoy of PDF Mujahidin from western Kordofan province has already gone to the theater of operations. In an address to the Mujahidin convoy, the minister of education in western Kordofan state, Mr. Sulayman Hamid, said that column after column of Mujahidin would follow one another in defense of the faith and the homeland.

Al-Bashir on Mobilization

EA0911215495 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The president of the Republic, staff Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, met a delegation of the Popular Committee for assisting the Armed Forces in al-Jazirah state, led by its chairman, Dr. Ibrahim Ubaydallah, who is also the state's governor, this morning at the Friendship Hall in Khartoum. The meeting was also attended by staff Brigadier 'Abd al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn, the minister at the presidency of the Republic.

The president welcomed the delegation's visit and praised the continuing achievements of al-Jazirah state in all fields. He accepted an invitation by the delegation to attend a mobilization campaign in al-Jazirah state in December.

The president said the Sudanese people were convinced that the [mobilization] activities were for God, the most high. He urged them to support and strengthen the Armed Forces so as to confront the enemies of God and the homeland.

The governor of al-Jazirah state announced that the Popular Committee for assisting the Armed Forces was composed of 180 people representing all political activities, tribes and business people. He said the aim of the mobilization exercise was to provide moral and material support to the Armed Forces besides giving the inhabitants of the state a chance to participate in this obligation.

He affirmed their support for the Armed Forces and readiness to defend the faith and the homeland.

Adviser on 'Incursion'

NC1111201595 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Nov 95

[Telephone interview with Amin Hasan 'Umar, media adviser to leader 'Umar al-Bashir, by Jihad al-'Idan; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [al-'Idan] Sudan has declared a popular mobilization. What are the reasons and the background of this mobilization and how do you evaluate the Sudanese people's response to it?

['Umar] The response by the Sudanese people has been great as seen from Sudanese media reports. The response is known in the Arab world and I believe it is also known in Iran. The people's response has been extensive because the people sense that there is a conspiracy against Sudan by major powers using tools from the neighbors. The people thus realize that the issue is bigger than these provocations, which seem to be limited now, but the people know there are motives behind them.

[Al-'Idan] How do you asses the situation on the front with Uganda?

['Umar] There has been an incursion by forces made up of thousands. A Ugandan division carried out an incursion that used rebels as their guides. Initially they entered with heavy weapons, heavy artillery, and tanks. Naturally no one can say that these tanks descended on the rebels from heaven. However, they have now been defeated in all three positions that they attacked in the (Ashwa, Magawi, and Faraju'k) areas. Currently they are retreating; Sudanese forces are advancing and they are retreating.

[Al-'Idan] What is the true coordination between Uganda and Egypt, particularly since the aggression came after the Ugandan president's visit to Egypt?

['Umar] The aggression took place during and shortly before the visit. Those who are engaged in this coordination do not seem to be making an effort to conceal it in the first place.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Al-'Idan] The Zionist entity, especially after Yitzhaq Rabin's assassination, seems to be trying to cover domestic and foreign reactions by causing an aggression against Sudan, particularly because Sudan applies the Islamic shari'ah, which terrifies the Zionist entity. How do you assess this view?

['Umar] We know that Sudan will remain [words indistinct] just as all active forces of the nation are targeted. Sudan wants to defend the nation's rights, existence, and dignity. There is no going back on these issues in Sudan... [telephone line breaks]. We cannot at all retreat from these main lines. We cannot rush with the people rushing to normalize [with Israel]; we have not seen the intransigent, arrogant Israeli behavior change.

[Al-'Idan] It seems that the so-called human rights organization or Amnesty International has issued a memorandum or a statement on rights violations in Sudan. What is your reaction to this?

['Umar] This is a political organization. Even in Britain, where it is registered, courts have decided that it is a political organization working on a political agenda. We know this agenda against Sudan and it is an exposed agenda. We do not pay attention to it and to its reports. Its position is now exposed and obvious. It is enough that Sudan is the only Arab state in which there are no political detainees. Despite this, Amnesty International speaks about human rights violations in Sudan.

[Al-'Idan] Sudan has filed a complaint to the United Nations against Uganda while Uganda submitted a complaint to the OAU. What is your comment?

['Umar] Sudan notified international organizations of the Ugandan stance but I do not think it filed an official complaint. Sudan notified all these organizations of this Ugandan aggression and we do not expect much from these organizations, but we will advise all parties so they know what is happening.

[Al-'Idan] What is the future situation with Uganda and other neighboring African states, especially on political, media, and military confrontations hatched against Sudan, the latest of which was what happened with Uganda? How do asses the future?

['Umar] We believe that Sudan has a strong people ready to face all challenges. Uganda, Eritrea, and others are worth nothing compared to Sudan, God willing. They are engaged in a game in which they are the pawns, no more, no less. We depend on ourselves after our dependence on almighty God. We know that God will not fail us long as we stick to upholding His word.

Paper on 'Epic' Battle

EA1211135795 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Khartoum, [no date as received] (SUNA) — The Armed Forces and the People's Defense Forces have inflicted a shattering defeat on the Ugandan and rebel forces [words indistinct] in the Parajok areas [words indistinct] of Equatoria.

It was a great epic as our forces managed to repeatedly (?repulse) attacks from the aggressive forces in spite of their having more men and equipment.

AL-INQADH AL-WATANI newspaper, published here today, said that the Armed Forces destroyed seven [words indistinct] of the Ugandan forces, crippled them and forced them out completely from the battlefield. The defeated forces fled, leaving behind them quantities of weapons, ammunition and military equipment [words indistinct]. Our armed forces' bravery and steadfastness disconcerted and lowered the morale of the aggressor forces.

Reports from the theater of operations said that the defeated Ugandan forces could not (?pull back) their equipment as they were seized by panic and alarm [words indistinct].

Captured men from both the rebels and the Ugandans said that the forces which took part in the battle were from the fourth Ugandan division, while the tanks' crews were Eritreans asked for by Ugandan president Yoweri Museveni from Eritrean president Isaias Afwerki during his recent visit to Asmara. The captured men also revealed that an ambassador of a (?western) country based in a neighboring country hostile to Sudan supervised the planning and the implementation of the Ugandan aggression on the border areas of the south.

The material and military support for this operation came from a number of quarters.

There were also African mercenaries in addition to the Ugandans. The objective of the operation was to (?seize) the border areas and hand them over to John Garang's movement the Sudan People's Liberation Movement as well as to regain some of the areas lost by the rebels, particularly the towns.

They also aimed at driving away the Sudanese Armed Forces from the border areas of the two countries and moving deeper into the country to recover some of the areas lost by the rebels, in particular the towns.

The reports add that our Armed Forces and the People's Defense Forces performed rare heroic epic deeds and were thus able to determine the battle in a short time

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and seize the initiative. Then they went on to comb the areas which had been attacked and secure them.

They put the aggressor forces to flight after defeating them and seized from them large quantities of weapons and military equipment which they left behind.

All this was due to the cohesiveness of the internal front, the high morale of the Armed Forces and Sudan's experience in dealing with different military battle situations.

The Kenyan newspaper, DAILY NATION, yesterday quoted the director general of the Ugandan internal security organization, Brigadier Jim Muhwezi, as telling a parliamentary committee on 9 November that the Sudanese Army and the Lord's Resistance Army had been dislodged from three camps, one of which was at "Parajok".

Al-Bashir Attends Ceremony; Battalion Sent South

EA0911224695 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The president of the Republic, staff Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, this afternoon at the Green Square attended the passing-out ceremony of the final batch of recruits from the Faruq-Seven Detachment, the Nusaybah-Four and the medium-level Civil Service Cadres Number Nine.

Addressing the ceremony, the minister of public service, administrative reform and labor, Brigadier Dr. al-Tayyib Ibrahim Muhammad Khayr, stressed that the passing out of this batch of civil service recruits constituted a new step forward in the civil service and was in line with the objectives and programs of the comprehensive national strategy for reconstruction. He announced that the number of civil service recruits in Sudan exceeded 20,000. He said a battalion had already been sent to the southern states to take part in reconstruction efforts and the efforts aimed at bringing about peace from within.

The ceremony was also addressed by Brigadier Muhammad al-Hasan Fadil, the commander of the Popular Defense Forces [PDF], who stressed that the passing out of this batch constituted a real addition to the PDF, the Armed Forces' foremost pillar of support. He said the passing out coincided with the PDF's seventh anniversary. He praised the great number who had left for the operation zone following the president's declaration of a state of mobilization. He said this batch will offer a battalion to the operation zone in response to this call.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Saudi Arabia

Riyadh Explosion Kills U.S. Personnel, Others

Cause of Blast Unknown

NC1311094695 Paris AFP in English 0939 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riyadh, Nov 13 (AFP)—An explosion ripped through a building used by US military officials in the Saudi capital of Riyadh on Monday [13 November], leaving several American casualties and destroying several cars, an AFP correspondent said.

The blast blew off one side of the three-story building which housed the Saudi American National Guard Development Mission, wounding at least nine people, mainly American women who worked there.

The mission was to train the Saudi national guard.

A fire was put out quickly as rescue workers pulled victims from the rubble and ambulances rushed them to hospitals.

Several cars parked near the building were destroyed which also broke windows of neighboring buildings.

It was the first such explosion in the Saudi capital, but the cause of it was not immediately known.

Car Bomb Suspected

NC1311111295 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nicosia, Nov 13 (AFP) — A massive explosion which ripped through offices used by US officials in the Saudi capital Riyadh was caused by a car bomb, the US embassy spokesman there told CNN.

Spokesman Jeffrey Thomas said there had been "one or two explosions."

"No one has claimed responsibility," he said. "We believe it was a car bomb."

"A number of Americans work in that facility, some have been killed and some have been injured," he added, although he could not give exact figures.

Interior Ministry Source Comments

LD1311120295 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] An authoritative source at the Interior Ministry has made the following statement: This morning, Monday 20 Jumad al-Akhir 1416 AH, corresponding to 13 November 95, at around 1130, an explosion took place in a parking lot that was surrounded by a number of buildings at al-Thalatin Street in al-Ulayyah district of the city of Riyad. The source added that a result of the explosion six people were killed and 60 people were injured. Most of the injuries were not serious.

The authoritative source at the Interior Ministry confirmed that the dead were four American nationals, one Filipino, and one who has yet to be identified.

The source indicated that the concerned security authorities have begun their investigation into the circumstances of the explosion by collecting samples from the place where the explosion took place in order to establish the identity of the perpetrators of this crime and the material used to cause it. The source added that the Interior Ministry will subsequently issue a statement on the result of its investigation.

The authoritative source at the Interior Ministry concluded his statement by affirming that the Interior Ministry would like to reiterate the importance which it attaches to the cooperation of citizens and [foreign] residents by passing on to the security authorities any information that might help in speeding up the identification of the perpetrators of this incident which is foreign to our environment, our social ideals, and our religious beliefs. God is our protector and our guide.

'Tigers of Gulf' Claim Blast

NC1311121995 Paris AFP in English 1216 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nicosia, Nov 13 (AFP)—An organization demanding the expulsion of US troops from Saudi Arabia said it carried out a car bombing that killed four Americans and two other people Monday [13 November] in the Saudi capital Riyadh.

An anonymous caller claiming to be from the previously unknown organization, the Tigers of the Gulf, made the claim from Saudi Arabia in a telephone call to AFP.

Group Threatens More Attacks

NC1311123695 Paris AFP in English 1226 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nicosia, Nov 13 (AFP)—An organization demanding the expulsion of US troops from Saudi Arabia said it carried out a car bombing that killed four Americans and two other people Monday [13 November] in the Saudi capital Riyadh.

An anonymous caller claiming to be from the previously unknown organization, the Tigers of the Gulf, made the claim from Saudi Arabia in a telephone call to AFP.

"The attacks will continue until the departure of the last American soldier" from Saudi Arabia, the caller said in two successive calls to AFP.

The blast blew off one side of the three-storey building which housed US offices used to train the Saudi Arabian National Guard.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Baghdad Fails To Announce UN Embargo Decision

NC0911145695 Paris AFP in English 1442 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Baghdad, Nov 9 (AFP)—Prices for consumer goods rose about 20 percent this week in Baghdad, coinciding with the UN Security Council decision to maintain economic sanctions against Iraq.

The cost of food, clothing, school items and other goods posted the dramatic increase because of fears that supplies would be further tightened by the Security Council decision reached late Wednesday [8 November] in New York, merchants said. [passage omitted]

Iraq's official media had yet to report the Security Council's decision as of late Thursday afternoon. [passage omitted]

Paper: Sanctions Extension Violates UN Charter

JN1211093795 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has called for practical and tangible moves to break the Arab blockade as an indispensable first step toward breaking and lifting the unfair blockade imposed on Iraq.

In an article today headlined "End the Arab Blockade First," AL-THAWRAH says that the call by Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al-Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, for Arab reconciliation and lifting the unfair blockade is a step in the right direction. The paper notes that since its announcement, this call has been receiving support, most recently the full Yemeni support.

The paper adds: The call is a sound and praiseworthy step, however, it definitely does not ease the pan-Arab and moral responsibility of other Arab countries and all their official and popular organizations toward confronting this blockade, which is no longer a burden only to Iraq and its people, but also to all Arab countries.

The paper says that the continued extension of the unfair blockade imposed on Iraq is a blatant and glaring violation of the UN Charter and legal and international commitments. The continued extension is a crime against humanity and disregards the aspirations of peoples and nations toward freedom and independent will, the paper notes.

The paper notes that Iraq has been following a sincere and honest policy of cooperation with the UN Security Council and the UN Special Commission. It says Iraq continues to be committed to the implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions on a legal and balanced basis. Meanwhile, the paper adds, the United States is turning everything upside down, a situation which justifies Arab moves toward lifting the blockade and gives them legal and legitimate grounds to do so.

INC Urges UN To Step Up Pressure on Regime

LD0911135395 Tehran IRNA in English 1335 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, United Nations, Nov. 9, IRNA — A delegation of the Iraqi National Congress [INC] to the Security Council in a meeting with the UN officials and Security Council members in New York on Wednesday called for exertion of more pressures on Baghdad regime.

Member of the executive council for foreign affairs of the Congress and head of the delegation, 'Aziz Ilyan, told IRNA here by phone on Wednesday that he had also met with representatives of Argentina, Germany, Italy, Czech [Republic] and the U.S. The delegation is to hold talks with Russian, French, British, Chilean and Honduran representatives on Thursday.

Referring to immense sufferings and hardships of the Iraqi nation, the delegation called on the Security Council to exert more pressures on Saddam's regime to make him respect human rights and accept the U.N. Resolution 986, which allows Iraq to sell a limited amount of oil in order to provide people's basic needs.

Furthermore, on Wednesday the delegation briefed many Security Council members on the latest developments in Iraq, including a bomb blast in the headquarters of the congress in northern Iraq last week, which killed 33.

The Security Council on Wednesday decided to extend the sanctions on Iraq for another two months.

PUK Prepares Proposals for U.S. Delegation

NC1211165095 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brother Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], yesterday chaired an expanded meeting for PUK Political Bureau and leading committee members. He discussed the current situation in Iraq, in particular, and the region, in general, and PUK positions on them. He also discussed the results of his talks with top officials in Turkey, Syria, Britain, and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the fruitful consultations he held with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and His Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, leader of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

His Excellency stressed the need for efforts to develop government institutions and PUK establishments in Kurdistan to ensure social justice and protect the achievements of the Kurdistan people. He noted that the PUK is ready to meet an American delegation headed by (Robert Welch). He said the PUK has prepared the proposals that it intends to present to the American delegation. At the end of the meeting, the brother secretary general called for resolving the issues of the region peacefully and democratically, and in a manner that observes human rights in Kurdistan.

'Top Level U.S. Delegation' Reportedly in North

LD1211125495 Tehran IRNA in English 1157 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sar Dasht, W. Azarbayjan, Nov.,12, IRNA — A top level U.S. delegation, including two senior CIA agents, is reportedly in northern Iraq, according to reports reaching here.

The identifications of the U.S. delegates including the two CIA agents have not been revealed.

The Turkish semi-official news agency ANATOLIA had already reported that a U.S. official had left Ankara for northern Iraq Friday night.

The visit of the U.S. mission to northern Iraq has coincided with an agreement of the rival Kurdish groups to Iranian mediation to end infighting between the belligerent Kurdish rivals.

Observers pursuing the developments in northern Iraq do not rule out the likelihood of a flare-up of fighting between Kurdish groups as a result of the presence of the U.S. delegates in northern Iraq.

World Leaders Congratulate Saddam on Referendum

Russian President Boris Yeltsin

JN1011212195 Baghdad Iraq Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 95

["Text" of cable from Russian President Boris Yeltsin to President Saddam Husayn on his referendum victory on 8 November — read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] Your Excellency President Saddam Husayn, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and president of the Republic of Iraq;

Your esteemed excellency: Please accept my congratulations on your reelection as president of the Republic of Iraq through the referendum. It is my hope that the traditional ties of friendship between Russia and Iraq will be promoted in the interest of the two countries' peoples and regional peace and security as well.

[Signed] Boris Yeltsin, Moscow, the Kremlin

[Dated] 8 November 1995

PRC President Jiang Zemin

JN0911125395 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 9 Nov (INA)—His Excellency President Saddam Husayn received a cable of congratulations from PRC President Jiang Zemin on the occasion of the leader president's winning the people's trust in the general public referendum held on 15 October.

The cable reads as follows: On the occasion of your reelection as president of the Republic of Iraq, I would like to express to you our heartfelt wishes on behalf of the PRC Government and people and in my own name. I wish you continued good health and happiness, and the friendly PRC-Iraqi ties continuous progress.

Paper Describes UK Drug Ban as 'Dastardly Act'

JN0911134595 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 Oct 95 p 2

["Standpoint" column by Sabri Hammadi: "British Dastardliness"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Many and frequent are the instances and evidences proving the British Government's continuous hostility to Iraq and indulgence in its inhumane and unethical acts against the steadfast Iraqi people. Naturally, preventing one of its medical firms from supplying Iraq with medicine for the treatment of angina pectoris as well as anesthetics, and deporting an administrative employee of the Iraqi Interests Section in Britain under a false charge, will not be the last of these acts.

The erstwhile Great Britain is looking for the role it has lost in the region since the seventies. This Britain, is playing a clear role in the genocide crime which is being committed against Iraqis for more than five years now. It does not only impose unfair restrictions on all Iraqi purchases, including food and medicine, but also persists in preventing its medical firms from sending life-saving medicine to Iraq, such as medicine for the treatment of angina pectoris and anesthetics which are used in surgical operations.

But, what is behind all this British hostility toward Iraq and all this dastardliness? True, the stands of the British Government, which is only a major power in name, follow those of the U.S. Administration, especially as far as Iraq is concerned and the embargo which is being imposed on it, but it is also true and definite that

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

its subservience to the U.S. Administration is not the whole reason. There is another basic reason for British hatred toward Iraq. It is because of the defeats and humiliations which the Iraqi people have inflicted on British imperialism as well as the strong and painful kicks and slaps which British imperialists have received throughout their modern history.

It is correct to say that what the British Government suffers from now is a bitter sense of frustration over the decline and demise of its role and the fact that Iraq, more than any other party in the region, is instrumental in its defeat and the decline of its political role and influence. Thus, Britain believes that hurting and weakening Iraq is the only way to restore and reassert its lost role in the region; a role which it played until the seventies and then abandoned, or had to abandon, in favor of the United States.

Hence, it can be said also that what Britain is doing, and what the United States has done before it, against Iraq reaffirms that the Iraqi people — with their capability, vitality, history, and willpower — are the target of their aggression, unfair embargo, and all acts of pressure and extortion. Their claim that they are only targeting the Iraqi political regime is not true, because while the number of deaths among children below five years of age in 1989 was only 7,110, the number of deaths within that range in 1994 reached 52,905. The large difference between the two figures clearly reflects the ugliness of the genocide crime being committed against the Iraqi people by the enemies of Iraq, led by the U.S. Administration and the British Government.

What Britain is doing against Iraq is sheer dastardliness which can only be explained by its feeling of hatred, bitterness, and frustration over its declining role.

Spokesman Denounces Uganda's Acts Against Sudan

JN1211125695 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1042 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)— Iraq has expressed extreme concern over the foreign interference in sisterly Sudan's domestic affairs and the mounting foreign attempts to support the suspect rebellion in southern Sudan.

In a statement to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, an official spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry denounced the Ugandan troops' violation of the Sudanese territory and their acts of military aggression against Sudan.

The spokesman said that those hostile acts constitute a serious violation of the principles of the UN Charter, the rules of international law, and the principles of good-neighborliness between nations.

The spokesman added that proceeding from the principles of Iraq's consistent pan-Arab policy of solidarity with Arab countries in defending their sovereignty, security, and territorial integrity, the Government of Iraq stresses its solidarity with sisterly Sudan in defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity against all forms of aggression and foreign interference in Sudan's domestic affairs.

The spokesman urged Uganda to stop interfering in Sudan's domestic affairs, withdraw its troops from the Sudanese territory, and respect good-neighborly relations. He also urged the Ugandan Government to resort to dialogue in the service of the two neighboring countries' mutual security and regional stability.

New Ministers Take Constitutional Oath

JN1111190595 Baghdad Iraq Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Nov 95

[Announcer-read report over video]

[FBIS Translated Text] The new ministers have taken the constitutional oath before leader President Saddam Husayn, may God watch over him, on the occasion of the assumption of their official duties.

The ministers who took the constitutional oath were 'Abd-al-Jabbar Jawfiq Muhammad, who has been appointed education minister; 'Abd-al-Ilah Hamid Muhammad Salih, who has been appointed agriculture minister; and Ma'n 'Abdallah Sarsam, who has been appointed minister of housing and reconstruction. 'Awwad Hamad al-Bandar also took the constitutional oath before the leader president, may God watch over him, on the occasion of the assumption of his official duties as deputy chief of the Presidential Office. Leader President Saddam Husayn wished the ministers every success in the performance of their duties in the interest of our country and great people. [Video clips show Iraqi President Saddam Husayn standing, watching the ministers and deputy chief of the Presidential Office taking the constitutional oath. Saddam shakes hands with the new appointees once they finish their reading of the constitutional oath. Afterward, Saddam is shown chatting with the newly appointed Iraqi officials. Saddam and the new appointees are dressed in military uniform.]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Saddam Discusses Workers' Performance at Meeting

JN1211134095 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1132 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has said that the pursuance of socialist formulas without incentives, a clear vision of objectives, and without flexibility in performance can become burdensome. He said such a situation would waste resources and weaken creativeness despite any good intentions on the part the state managers and employees.

Presiding over the 39th session of the Council of Ministers today, President Saddam Husayn called for establishing a close link between increasing workers' revenues and their performance, whether in the form of improving and increasing production, reducing malfunctions, reducing the need for repeated maintenance, or preserving materials and spare parts. He said awards or allowances should be withheld when the level of production, maintenance, and services declines.

The president stressed that when the employee feels that his good performance is being observed and that improving his living standard is linked to all this, then he will learn to be honest and accurate. The president added: Then, the employee will act in an appropriate manner and his self-confidence will be boosted. He will also learn that while one way leads to punishment, there is another way which leads to relative sufficiency. Then, both reward and punishment will be clear and fair. While such an approach is required under normal circumstances, it is required even more so under hard circumstances, which need open minds, serious solutions, and all that would keep the state alive, active, and capable of giving.

The Council of Ministers discussed in the meeting a number of topics listed on its ordinary agenda. It made the required decisions and measures, including a decision to follow up the implementation of a project on the transfer of drinking water to al-Basrah, southern Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn ordered coordination and distribution of work at this stage among the ministers of interior, irrigation, and housing and reconstruction. He ordered them to implement what they agree on and to keep the Council of Ministers updated.

The council also approved a five-year national program aimed at increasing the productivity of wheat and barley seeds and other fodder crops. The program is being implemented by the Iba' Center for Agricultural Research. This will be done by spreading and multiplying new hybrid seed varieties and by farmers pursuing improved methods.

The Council of Ministers also discussed and approved new proposals to stimulate the private industrial sector to play its role more efficiently in industrial and economic development.

Saddam Chairs Meeting on Local Councils Draft Law

JN1211200795 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, chaired a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Iraq Command. The first part of a draft law on the people's local councils, which was prepared by a committee, was discussed at the meeting. After suitable amendments were made, this part of the draft law was approved and the said committee was instructed to prepare the second and last part of the draft law.

The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has learned that the draft law will be ready for approval within 10 days. The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Ahmad Husayn.

Husayn Kamil on Future Plans To Topple Regime

NC0911215095 London MBC Television in Arabic 1705 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Interview with General Husayn Kamil, former industry minister and son-in-law of President Saddam Husayn, by Fadi Isma'il and Sa'd al-Silawi, in Amman; date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Isma'il] General Husayn Kamil, we thank you for this interview with MBC. Let's begin the interview with the furor and the great expectations that accompanied your defection to Jordan this summer. This uproar and these great expectations have somewhat subsided now. Does this mean that the hope for a swift change in Iraq has diminished to a certain extent?

[Kamil] The media uproar was something expected because the defection came as a surprise. Nobody had advance knowledge about our departure from Iraq. Furthermore, the circumstances in Iraq, which are well-known on the international, Arab, and popular levels call for an uproar and for supporting our activities and objectives for the change.

Practically, it's impossible for us to make statements every day. But we will make statements if there is a real

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

action which calls for changing the regime, for linking the opposition factions, for reviving action inside Iraq, and for augmenting our action inside Iraq. We found it advisable to embark on semi-clandestine actions. Accordingly, some quarters thought that our activities had been diminished. The media need clear-cut material in order to announce what is available for them.

Our action has again begun to surface. We intend to form a council and we intend to declare our political program for the next action in Iraq. This will definitely be published in detail by the media.

[Isma'il] Has the formula of the higher council for the salvation of Iraq, which might be announced soon, been drafted in cooperation with the Iraqi opposition forces, particularly since some opposition forces believe that you were a part of the regime and, therefore, you are responsible for at least part of what happened in Iraq and, consequently, there is a lack of confidence. What is your answer to all this?

[Kamil] We are Iraqis before we are a part of the regime. The opposition outside Iraq is known. Some of the opposition forces are seriously working for the sake of Iraq. Some others are no longer serious and rely on certain quarters. Our departure and action might have harmed some opposition figures [word indistinct]. Our doors are open for our brothers in the opposition wherever they may be. There will be no closed doors. Our hearts and minds will always be open. We will listen, we will observe, and we will interact with them continuously. But we have our standards when it comes to cooperation with the opposition. There are people who only bear the name of opposition, but they are not in fact real opposition. There are people from the opposition who call for the partition of Iraq. Our program stipulates that we will fight anyone who seeks to partition Iraq. There are others who bear the name of opposition but are really carrying out acts of espionage for the interest of international quarters. We are ignoring these people. On the other hand, we will be rational and will be pleased by any remark submitted by the opposition whether inside or outside Iraq. [passage omitted]

[Isma'il] It was rumored recently that you had been presented with offers to return to Baghdad, but this was denied. The rumors came after changes in the position of some influential members of Saddam's family, specifically 'Uday Saddam Husayn, and the curtailing of his powers. It was also said that Mrs. Raghdah, President Saddam's daughter, wants to go back to Iraq. What is your response to these rumors.

[Kamil] What offers? We were in our own country, we had status, and we were exercising our responsibilities in power. We did not need any of these offers. Did we leave the borders only to bargain over new offers? This, I believe, makes no sense. It is raised for several purposes and considerations. As for the claim that a family member who left with me wants to return home, it is not true. We departed Iraq with full agreement to leave the country. This claim, too, was propagated by the media, some of which did so to serve certain purposes, but the fact is that it is not true. [passage omitted]

[Al-Silawi] When you left Baghdad three months ago people expected a quick and dramatic change in Iraq. However, this has not happened. Should we expect something to happen in the Iraqi arena soon?

[Kamil] As far as the Iraqi arena is concerned, we must operate according to a plan of action. There are various methods of action. There are methods that could make us reach our goal fast, while there are others that take more time. At any rate, we must avoid one thing; namely, a conflagration in Iraq. Iraq is now armed. It is a big country. It is also an exhausted country and one in which the authority is no longer in full control. Unless this action is well thought out, calculated, and balanced, we fear a civil war. This is the main reason that prompted us to take our time and to be quiet about our ties with the elements inside Iraq, with one another, and with the international parties.

When I say international parties I do not mean that we rely on an international party. Not at all. But since we are outside Iraq, we have to have backing and facilities. This is what I mean. So, the reason for the delay is to avoid a civil war in Iraq. I could say that a civil war would be a very likely possibility if we miscalculated. Thus, performance must be good and the action must be good. We also must make sure that the parties to the relationship understand each other; the Iraqi tribes, the Iraqi Army, and the Army officers.

Some officers think that because we did not approach them, we do not need them or do not want them to be with us. All this is being taken care of now. We started to get the message across to them that we will not abandon them. We also will not abandon any tribe, ethnic group, or faction. Never. They are all equal and we will deal with all of them. [passage omitted]

[Isma'il] For us to understand the prospects and direction of a change in Iraq, we must understand the reality and what is happening now. Your departure was followed by fast-breaking events. New information about the armament program was revealed, the so-called popular referendum was held, and the institutions of the state and the party were consolidated. What is your assess-

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

ment of what is happening now and what is the regime's plan?

[Kamil] Unfortunately, the referendum was neither required nor successful. It has weakened the state, the authority, and the regime, by its own hand. In my view, they should not have embarked on such a method, however, it is their mistake. If they really shifted from a revolutionary action to a constitutional action, then why did the Revolution Command Council stay? What has changed? Nothing. An Iraqi proverb says a drowning person clings to a straw. Well, a straw does not save. The way to rescue is clear: They must change, and they must be changed. No one who comes to power through a military coup, by moving a military unit, should stay for life. This is impossible. [passage omitted]

[Al-Silawi] You said that the regime must be changed, and you certainly meant the head of the regime, too, or this is what I understood. Do you believe that President Saddam could easily give up power in Iraq without the bloodbath or the civil war that you fear?

[Kamil] I wish the change would come quietly. I wish the change would give Iraqi society the right to determine its own affairs and give the individual a chance to benefit from Iraq's resources. But if no change takes place until death reaches the capital and the center of authority, this would be a major crime committed by the regime, which knows that the Iraqi people are completely detached from the regime. For things to reach this point, the regime's stay becomes a real catastrophe. [passage omitted] This is what we fear, but the regime will change in any case, either today or tomorrow. The regime cannot stay.

A regime of this kind cannot survive at all. Yesterday, we saw who attacked the leader, the prime minister, of his country, but not for reasons that apply to Iraq. I do not want to draw a parallel. We are a country called Iraq. [passage omitted]

[Al-Silawi] If change is a matter of time as you say, do you believe that the timing is suitable? In other words, are regional and world conditions suitable, and do they encourage a change in Iraq in light of talk about an Arab reconciliation with Iraq, the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Rabin, and the stagnation that will hit the peace process at least in the short term?

[Kamil] The main mistake is that the regional stance thinks that a change in Iraq is not in its favor. This is a strategic mistake. If we correctly analyze the situation in the Arab region, we find that a change is now convenient. It is convenient for Iraq and also for our Arab region in a positive way. Iraq is not a separate country; it is part of a whole called the Arab homeland and part of the region. [passage omitted]

There is no option but a bloodless change as we said. As for regional calculations and views that the regime's continuation is better than a change and domestic wars, I find them [word indistinct]. Such calculations are incomplete and perhaps influenced by world powers which believe that weakening Iraq is an opportunity to weaken the region and seek to infiltrate and destroy the heart of the region. [passage omitted]

[Isma'il] General Kamil, you spoke about fears of partition in Iraq if the ruling regime persists on its policy. Do you believe that the United States will allow this to happen, especially when we see that Iraq sits on enormous oil wealth?

[Kamil] In my estimation, any Arab or world party contemplating partitioning Iraq will be a loser. What makes me speak so frankly and clearly is that Iraq has its own character. Maybe some people believe that the Iraqi nation is like other nations or like theirs. This is not true. Every nation has its own character and traits as do the Iraqi people. The Americans, the Arab region, and the world will incur a great loss if partition takes place in Iraq. [passage omitted]

[Al-Silawi] But if partition is out of the question and impossible, should we not admit that the central authority in Baghdad is in crisis because of its relations with the country's ethnic communities? What is your solution regarding the ethnic communities in Iraq?

[Kamil] Before talking about ethnic communities, an Iraqi citizen's principle should be that he is an Iraqi. An Iraqi man should not distinguish between one and another no matter what his sect or religion is. We have religions and sects. A Kurd should be considered exactly as an Arab is. Iraqi sects must be equal. [passage omitted]

[Isma'il] Have you had meetings with the United States? Have you received Western or Arab promises to back the action that you carried out?

[Kamil] Meetings are important. Many of our Arab brothers did not at first properly understand the reasons for our leaving Iraq. Even the media and the ordinary citizens did not get a clear picture of our position and our sincere intentions to carry out changes on the basis of that position. The United States is a major country that we cannot ignore. We cannot claim that it has no business in these events. Nevertheless, the cooperation and the contacts that are taking place are based on sound, not erroneous, premises. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Al-Silawi] Do you expect others who are now inside Iraq to join your movement?

[Kamil] Yes. If we pave the way for the departure from Iraq of some of those whom we want, this will happen. A time will come when numerous Army officers and also many political figures whom we will invite to join us will leave. We will keep the doors open for them. Some of them whose safety is not guaranteed as long as they are in Iraq must eventually leave the country. Let them come here. Others will stay on for a while inside Iraq as long as their true position has not been exposed.

[Isma'il] You have already spoken of the global importance of the United States and its ability to influence events. Similarly, there are countries with regional influence, like Syria. According to some press reports you have made contacts with Syria and it is likely that you will visit it. When you first arrived in Jordan, the Syrian leaders played down the importance of your action and the furor that accompanied it. What role do you envisage Syria will play in the project to bring change to Iraq?

[Kamil] Syria is an Arab country. Furthermore, it has a common border with it. During my news conference I said that, in addition to my current stay in Jordan, I was going to visit Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, and other Arab countries. To bring about a change, I cannot let another party make my decisions for me. I am an Iraqi national, concerned with Iraqi affairs, but I am also a pan-Arabist. I will try to explain my position and views to my Arab brothers, including the Syrians. Any assistance I receive from them will be important and I will feel grateful to them. The Iraqi people will be grateful. Still, it is impossible for me to be guided or controlled by any other party apart from my own country, Iraq.

[Isma'il] When we speak of the influential regional powers, we cannot leave Saudi Arabia out. It has weight on the Arab, regional, and international scenes. How do you envisage future ties between Saudi Arabia and Iraq?

[Kamil] Saudi Arabia is a large and important country as you have noted. In my opinion, Iraq must have a close relationship with Saudi Arabia. It must also have clear relations with its neighboring countries, particularly the Arab ones. These relations must be based on mutual understanding. In my opinion, we must have good relations with Saudi Arabia. We must avoid the concepts of war and conspiracies that surfaced in the latest war. We cannot say that we will ignore this issue. On the contrary we will have close ties with Saudi Arabia just as we do with Jordan. We will also have close ties with other Arab countries. [passage omitted]

[Al-Silawi] You spoke of an adventure that the Iraqi regime may embark on....

[Kamil, interrupting] This is true.

[Al-Silawi] Does Iraq basically have the power to enable it to occupy another country. Give us details about what you mentioned on a previous occasion regarding Iraq's attempt to enter Kuwait and perhaps Saudi Arabia, too.

[Kamil] A decision was made to enter Kuwait and the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia in October 1994. I say it frankly. Perhaps some of the brothers believe this to be state secrets, but they are secrets of the [Arab] nation before being secrets of a state. The Arab nation is a great nation and Iraq is part of it. But Iraq is small compared to our Arab nation. The decision was made and assignments were given to commanders of divisions. A map of the attack was prepared. The mistakes of the entry into Kuwait were studied. All the mistakes. The men who went there reported on these mistakes to avoid them the second time, in October 1994, however, the attack was postponed and Russia interfered and Iraq officially recognized Kuwait. The embargo was not lifted. So a decision was made that unless the UN lifts the embargo, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia would be entered on 31 August 1995. [passage omitted]

[Isma'il] Does this mean that the regime may embark on a new invasion once again? Is this on the mind of the regime at present?

[Kamil] The regime believes it has established a high standing in the Arab world for its actions, for its entry into Kuwait, for the war with Iran, and for firing missiles against Israel. The embargo [words indistinct] and at the same time the regime knows that under the circumstances it will be finished off. So it wants to do something before its end comes, however, this would not signal the end of a person, but the end of our Arab nation. This is my view. Not only the armies will come to get Iraq out, I have concerns that it will be more serious than that.

[Isma'il] You have revealed secrets which you did not consider Iraqi secrets but secrets that belong to the nation, such as the Iraqi decision to launch a new war in October last year. There is another secret, which could be a secret or untrue, about an Iraqi attempt to produce nuclear weapons with the start of the second Gulf war. Is this true?

[Kamil] What motivated Iraq to produce weapons of mass destruction was the war with Iran. Before that, we had a nuclear reactor in Iraq from Russia, from France, and from Italy. But work was not heading toward manufacturing destructive or nuclear weapons,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

unlike the war with Iran. The Iran-Iraq war lasted for eight years. It was a war of conventional weapons at first but later developed. When it dragged on for a long time, each party started to work to end it in its favor and to inflict maximum destruction on the other side. The two parties, Iraq and Iran, started to get into producing mass destruction weapons and the two parties started to fight each other on the ground using chemical weapons. The two sides also started producing biological weapons at the same time. The two sides also started gearing their factories, experts, and scientists toward producing nuclear weapons. Yes, Iraq has [had] an extensive nuclear program and was close to producing a nuclear bomb.

[Isma'il] You mean testing a nuclear bomb in 1991?

[Kamil] Yes it was close. Had it wanted to and had it made calculations for the war, Iraq would have in a short time possessed a nuclear bomb.

[Isma'il] Had it not been for the....

[Kamil, interrupting] Had it not been for the war. Had it made calculations to produce a nuclear weapon before the entry, Iraq would have been able to possess a nuclear weapon within a few months.

[Isma'il] But why did this test not take place?

[Kamil] This relates to another avenue which we do not want to get into. however, the real truth is that had Iraq wanted, it would have been definitely able in a short time, less than a year, to possess nuclear weapons. [passage omitted]

Claimant to Throne Calls For Meeting in London

NC1011123395 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 2 Nov 95 p 14

[FBIS Translated Text] Al-Sharif 'Ali Bin-al-Husayn has invited "independent national personalities" and Iraqi opposition parties abroad to a meeting in London on 4 and 5 November under the motto "The Defense of the Iraqi People."

The invitation, a copy of which was received by AL-NAHAR, says the conferees will discuss:

1. A mechanism to isolate Saddam's regime internationally and regionally.
2. A mechanism to ease the economic and political suffering of the Iraqi people.
3. A mechanism to safeguard the Iraqi people's basic rights.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Rabin's 'Last Major Interview' on Palestinian Issue

BR0911150195 Paris LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR in French 9-15 Nov 95 pp 60, 62, 64

[Interview with Yitzhaq Rabin by Elisabeth Schemla in Tel Aviv; date not given: "Yitzhaq Rabin's Political Testament" — first paragraph is LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR introduction]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A few weeks ago in his office at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv, Yitzhaq Rabin, under attack from all sides in Israel and in the diaspora, nevertheless showed a remarkable coolheadedness. He received Elisabeth Schemla for an hour on behalf of the POLITIQUE INTERNATIONALE and LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR magazines and replied clearly to all questions on a possible civil war among Jews, Jerusalem, the colonies, and Muslim fundamentalism. This was to be his last major interview. Here are some sizable extracts:

[Schemla] The problem of maintaining or clearing the Jewish settlements in the occupied territories is one of the most divisive issues for Israeli public opinion. Do you think it could lead to a civil war among Israelis?

[Rabin] I do not think so. Even if we have to resort to force against the settlements, I am convinced that this will not lead to Jews killing other Jews. Virtually nobody is looking for a civil war. I also have faith in Israeli democracy. My government was democratically elected, as were those of Menachem Begin and the Likud. Begin said then that " a majority is a majority." He was right. In our parliamentary system (since we do not have a presidential system) there have been 96 attempts in three years to overturn my government with votes of no-confidence! They all failed because I reform a new majority every day. I believe in what I am doing and for as long as I have a majority, even a majority of one, I will continue.

As much as I believe in the Jewish people's right to the land of Israel, I do not want the whole of Israeli territory to fall under the sovereignty of the state of Israel. I think that we must do what we can to get on with the Arabs. Good or bad, they are our neighbors and it is better to live intelligently with your neighbors than to live in a violent feud. I was a soldier for 27 years. I fought wherever and whenever it was necessary. However, I always ardently wished for a solution to be found: Not one that would lead to Israel being recognized by the Arab world — I could not care less about that, I do not ask for recognition — but a solution that would result in the reconciliation between the Jewish state and the Arab world. That is why I want this Palestinian entity by our side, including most of the occupied territories, without returning to exactly the same borders as in 1967 and, of course, and not including Jerusalem. I believe that by extending Israel to include the Gaza Strip and the West Bank you will not just annex land but also 2.2 or 2.3 million Palestinians against their will, and that would lead us into a very difficult situation. It would mean completely changing the whole political, religious, moral, and national identity of Israel. It would change the face of Israel.

I am not saying that we must only have Jews in Israel. For example, 900,000 of our 5.5 million inhabitants are Israeli Arabs. There are also the foreigners who are entitled to demand Israeli nationality. However, the history of the Jewish people and Jewish destiny would have no sense and it would be stupid to call Israel a Jewish state if this was not reflected in its demography, which is the only thing that enables it to pursue its overall destiny. [passage omitted]

Peres Vows To Continue Along Rabin's Peace Path

TA1211184895 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1537 GMT 12 Nov 95

[Address by Acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres at Labor's memorial session for Yitzhaq Rabin at Tel Aviv's Mann Auditorium — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] Le'a, Dalya, Yuval, members of the family, friends: I thought that when a bullet tears the heart, the person's life is judged by the court in heaven. When the bullet opened Yitzhaq's heart, his life unforeseen was judged by an earthly court. There is the song: Men cry at night, youths cry in daylight. I have never seen such mourning here or elsewhere. The mourning has been embraced by the young generation. Young people were not born to mourn, but this time the mourning did not merely express grief, but also a deep, belated, quiescent, silent gratitude, which broke through in an unbelievable flood as though they wanted to hold onto the wings floating up above, catch the last moment, and say: Thank you.

I thought about it a great deal: Why did the youths behave like that? Why did they cry and light candles and say a prayer? I think the aim is to do justice to Yitzhaq. At a certain moment in his life, he knew that it is not enough to defend the present, that we must pave the tough but right path for the youth growing up among us.

Permit me a private word. We knew each other for decades, often in rivalry, opposition, competition, suspicion. Over the past three years, there was no reconciliation or arrangement. A question united us, and the answer created harmony. The question: What should

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

we do with our experience, with the ripeness we have reached. It was not ratings, image, impressions that directed us. The answer was to face reality as it really is and provide an unqualified answer for all the difficult decisions. I saw Yitzhaq when he was called a traitor. Was it pleasant, simple, acceptable? God forbid. But it was clear to him. He knew that he was tearing up conventions. He knew that he was not looking for an easy way out. He knew that he had started a journey not in order to please others.

I look at the young generation — I can do so it since it is a party convention — and say: Let us give them the party; the peace is theirs; therefore, we should give them the movement and open the gates. Young men and women these days are wise, ripe, and knowledgeable, with an internal drive at a very early age. We should not give them the right only to show gratitude. This is their chance. It is for them that Yitzhaq fell. They do not admit it, but they understood that that is the great secret.

On the night before we signed the Oslo accord I turned on the radio and heard that we had lost seven soldiers in Lebanon. My heart was torn apart. I did not know what to do. I telephoned Yitzhaq and told him: I know that you are facing the death of the seven on your own. He told me: Shim'on, do not put anything off. What we are doing now is to make sure it does not happen again. We signed not over a glass of wine, but over a glass of water. We signed in different places with the same tear in the eye.

I would also like to say to my friends that in these three years I have suddenly started to understand what it means to be two and not one facing the other, but two together, pulling a heavy cart. Two together serving a great ideal, two together who stopped suspecting, fearing, competing. Permit me an aside: When I read that the Rabin camp was afraid, I am sure that Yitzhaq would have laughed. We all belong to the Rabin camp. What sort of camps are there? There is a single camp. Like Yuval said: There is only one way. That way is not easy, has not been completed, and arouses a great deal of opposition, loss of senses. A lot of people are on the verge of madness because they think they are the messengers of the Almighty, but in fact they are the messengers of Satan. It is not a path paved with simplicity, but it shows that two, four, eight, multitudes, can live together, fight together, dream together, and work together. Perhaps that is also something that he left us. For that there were two, which is a great deal, just as one is very little.

I regret that Yitzhaq's greatness was discovered when he was no longer with us. His death divulged what his life covered up, a little because of his shyness, a little because he did not want to be prematurely happy, and a little so that we should not be overcome by paralyzing satisfaction. He died a happy person. I was close to him in the final moments, and I never saw him happier and at one with himself. But I knew that it was a passing happiness and that in the morning you would get up again full of demands, decisions, and ideas.

I saw the weeping of the people. I have been sitting on his chair in his office. I must say that I myself was surprised by the force of the achievements and the activity in that room where ideas were born and cultivated that placed Israel at the peak of the international arena as we had never known before, ideas that at his fresh grave proved for the first time that the mourning not only unites us, but is the supreme expression of the first peace in the Middle East. Peace has never appeared so sad, but also so honest and so promising as the mourning that arose from the wreaths placed on the fresh grave.

I know that there are plans of which I am unaware and that it is a daring but real road, with no pretense or illusions. I can only say that our paths have separated — as nature decreed — for some time, but that your way continues in all of us. It is a way that made many of us greater, a way paved by people, and one person who knew greatness.

I would like to conclude by making a personal remark to Le'a and the family. Your fortitude is part of the ongoing mourning, greatness, and hope. We must not only yearn for the past, but also make a resounding call for the Israel that was discovered in its vigor and strength to continue along that path so that the children who cried on his grave will not have to cry in the future.

Baraq, Ramon Address Labor Memorial Session

TA1211165895 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Labor Party's memorial session at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv has just ended. The first speakers were Yitzhaq Rabin's daughter Dalya and son Yuval. Yuval Rabin said that he has never asked anyone for anything, but that now he is asking the party to pursue his father's path, which is the only way, because no second or third way exists. We must march together on the path of peace and security to ensure that he has not died in vain. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Ehud Baraq said that a sovereign state and an elected government will not surrender to terror of any origin. Never again will we remain silent in the presence of a rampaging street, Baraq said, and we will wage a determined struggle against radical right-wing groups and act to uproot political incitement.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Histadrut Chairman Hayim Ramon said that politicians are now pledging to behave differently, to protest differently, and to listen to each other. Ramon appealed to young people not to let Shim'on Peres march alone on the path of peace, on a path that will bring reconciliation inside the State of Israel.

President Weizman Calls For National Unity

TA1211192695 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1628 GMT 12 Nov 95

[Address to the nation by President 'Ezer Weizman from the presidential residence in Jerusalem; date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Citizens, the time has come for genuine soul-searching. Each of us must search his soul for what he has said, for what he will say, and for what he will pray. The last moments of the late Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin pass before my eyes, as they must pass before yours. Seven days have passed since his assassination. In a live broadcast, we saw him smile, full of satisfaction, embrace Shim'on Peres — his partner in reinforcing the peace process — sing the Song of Peace, and talk openly about his last will and testament to all of us: no to violence, yes to peace. Within split seconds, a Jewish murderer, a citizen of the State of Israel, cut down the song of his life. Over 1 million people, of all ages, from all parts of Israel, came to pay their respects to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Day and night they have waited with endless patience in long queues which started at the entrance to Jerusalem up to the Knesset plaza. The same citizens filled the Tel Aviv plaza where he was assassinated and waited at the entrance to his home to pay respect to a leader who led our state to peace, prosperity, and security.

The entire nation united to salute Yitzhaq and to condemn the contemptible act that shook our very existence. I denounce that vile assassination with all my being. We must not forget that the commandment "Do not kill" has been a basic tenet ever since we became a state. You must look for any sign that might uncover such despicable acts in the future. We must uproot any phenomenon that endangers our existence. Any attempt by a citizen to achieve aims through physical and verbal violence and undemocratic means is also worthy of denunciation and total scorn.

Each citizen must abide by the supreme authority of the official institutions of the State of Israel. Despite the difficult domestic disputes and the trenchant arguments, the only path for domestic peace is the path of democracy, which is based on the decision of the majority.

I am about to start talks with representatives of all the Knesset factions and afterward to impose the task of setting up a government on a candidate recommended by the majority. I shall call on the new government to be set up to show maturity for the sake of our domestic stability and to continue to advance the peace process in our region.

I call for the closing of ranks. A finger pointed at this or that public will bring ruin and self-destruction to our very existence. More than ever, we must unite and hold onto each other for a common aim: to strengthen a democratic state whose flag is peace, security, aliya, economic prosperity, and cultural and social values, which were always our credo.

It was Yitzhaq Rabin who raised that flag to heights we had never beforehand seen. Let us wave it together.

I call on all of you to join in the struggle against violence, against undermining values, against incitement, against self-destruction, and against lack of culture and lack of tolerance. Let us not permit this despicable act to break our spirit. We must become stronger and together continue toward the goals we have given ourselves since the declaration of independence of the State of Israel. It is important to think of our image so that we will be able to hand over to the coming generations a heritage of love of man, moral values, and unity.

Yitzhaq Rabin propelled the State of Israel a generation forward. Let us not permit that vile murderer to reduce the momentum by creating division and hatred. We must all continue along Yitzhaq Rabin's path of a strong and prosperous state, which serves as a model for all the countries of the world. Together, we salute Yitzhaq Rabin, the fighter who fought the battle for peace, and express support for his family. Blessed be his memory.

Threat To Kill Peres Received on Internet

TA1011151195 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Nov 95 p 5

[Report by Dudi Goldman]

[FBIS Translated Text] Threats against the life of Shim'on Peres have been received on Internet's On-Line Condolence Book, established in memory of Yitzhaq Rabin.

The person behind the threats identified himself as "'Amir Yig'al, the assassin" and warned that "Peres will soon join Rabin; this will happen on 16 November" (next Thursday). The person gave a false E-mail address.

The threat was sent to the On-Line Condolence Book operated by the Netking Company, a division of Tamir

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Cohen (Jacobsohn) Advertising, and it was brought to the attention of the security forces.

About 40,000 condolences have so far made the Internet's On-Line Condolence Book, and about 20,000 candles have been lit in Rabin's memory.

Police Detain 5 Persons After Threat to Peres

TA1211133395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Rishon Leziyyon police today detained five persons working in a food packaging plant in Mishmar Hashiv'a on suspicion of threatening to assassinate Acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

Our correspondent Yehudit Yehezqeli reports that the affair was uncovered when somebody telephoned the duty officer at the Rishon Leziyyon police station threatening that if those detained in connection with the prime minister's assassination are not released immediately, he and his friends will assassinate Peres today. The police found through the Bezeq phone company that the call was made from a food packaging plant in Mishmar Hashiv'a. A police officer who was sent to the site detained five persons. They are now being interrogated, but deny any connection to the call.

Bomb Threat Reportedly Made Against Netanyahu

NC0911161395 Paris AFP in English 1523 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tel Aviv, Nov 11 (AFP) — Right-wing Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu was threatened with a bomb attack on Thursday [9 November], the latest in a series of threats on his life since the murder of prime minister Yitzhaq Rabin, his party said.

"There were several death threats on Wednesday and a bomb threat today," a spokesman for Netanyahu told AFP.

"The same people, on the left, who were claiming Likud helped to incite the murder of Rabin are today doing the inciting, by calling Netanyahu a murderer," charged Michael Stoltz.

There was no immediate confirmation from police of the threats received at Likud headquarters in Tel Aviv.

Government ministers as well as the slain premier's widow, Le'a Rabin, have pinned blame on the Likud leader for the assassination last Saturday at a peace rally in Tel Aviv.

Before the murder, Likud held several demonstrations against Rabin's peace policies toward the Palestinians. Far-right groups tagged along, branding the prime minister a traitor for surrendering land.

Attorney General: Another Political Murder Probable

TA1211175595 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Attorney General Mikha'el Ben-Ya'ir said this afternoon that Rabin's assassination has broken a psychological barrier, and that we can now anticipate another political murder with a very high degree of probability.

The attorney general pointed out that anyone whose remarks encourage murder will be arrested. Our correspondent Esti Perez reports that the attorney general made these remarks in a briefing for reporters.

Evidence Shows 'Spiritual Authority' Approved Assassination

TA1011191495 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Ayala Hason video report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Hagay 'Amir, the murder suspect's brother, has admitted to his interrogators that he himself tried to assassinate Yitzhaq Rabin in the past. The police possess information that constitutes prima facie evidence that the murder was carried out with the knowledge and approval of a spiritual authority whom the 'Amir brothers consulted. The detention of another suspect in the prime minister's assassination was extended today. Our police affairs correspondent Ayala Hason has the details:

[Begin Hason recording] Yo'el Epstein, 23, a student from the Jerusalem Hadassah College: The police claim that Epstein knew in advance of his good friend Yig'al 'Amir's intention to murder the late Yitzhaq Rabin. Epstein was detained at midnight yesterday, and his house was searched. His interrogation continued throughout the night.

The investigation of the prime minister's assassination is multifaceted, a police investigator claimed today.

Yig'al 'Amir, the assassin: The police and Shin Bet are aware that a certain person whose identity is known to them provided the ideological platform for the prime minister's murder. The investigators are trying to get a statement from Yig'al 'Amir about this person.

Hagay, the brother: He will be charged with abetting murder. In his interrogation, he admitted that he had tried to assassinate the prime minister in the past. He also admitted that on the day of the murder, he had an argument with his brother, Yig'al. I was in favor of using a Kalashnikov, while Yig'al favored a pistol, he told his interrogators.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Avishay Raviv, the head of EYAL [Irgun Yehudi Lohem]: Raviv is suspected of knowing about and even encouraging Rabin's assassin to commit the crime.

Dror 'Adani, from the Bet Hagay settlement: He is suspected of active involvement. He and his friends are suspected of having established a terror organization whose aim was to murder the prime minister and kill Arabs.

Ohad Skornik, a Bar Ilan law student: Skornik is suspected of membership in the group that planned the murder.

Every detention of a suspect leads to additional detentions, because several of the suspects are giving the interrogators a great deal of information. The question is: If so many people knew of the conspiracy to murder Rabin, where were the police and the security services? [end recording]

Rabbis Who Allegedly Issued Anti-Rabin Edicts Named

TA1211174395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The two rabbis whose names have been reported to the chief rabbis and who, according to Rabbi Yo'el Bin-Nun, had issued an halakic edict against Yitzhaq Rabin, are Rabbi Nahum Rabinovich from Ma'ale Adumim and Rabbi Dov Li'or from Qiryat Arba'. This was reported by our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld. Yet the two rabbis have categorically denied having issued a halakic edict against the prime minister.

Our correspondent further reports that Chief Rabbi Baqshi-Doron has spoken with one of these rabbis, and he plans to speak with the other one.

In a conversation with our correspondent Gil Litman, Rabbi Nahum Rabinovich of Ma'ale Adumim said he has never preached violence. Rabbi Dov Li'or's associates said he has never announced that Israeli Government leaders fall within the category of rodef [whose killing is permissible on halakic grounds].

Rabbi Yo'el Bin-Nun refused to comment on any names.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1700 GMT on 12 November carries a similar report, referring to "three rabbis," instead of two. The third person suspected of issuing an anti-Rabin edict, according to Qol Yisra'el, is "Rabbi Eliyahu Zini from the Technion," who is cited as saying that "he has never been heard to insinuate that violent action should be taken toward any person whatsoever. Rabbi Zini told our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld that the allegations against him must have been made by his rabbinical adversary."]

Shahal: 'Amir's Group Planned Attacks on Palestinians

TA1011204495 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The police minister disclosed this evening that aside from Yig'al 'Amir's attempts to murder Prime Minister Rabin, there were other elements who had tried to murder him. He also said that Yig'al 'Amir began to plan the murder about a year ago, after he received approval from rabbis who ruled that it is permissible to harm the prime minister. In an interview on Jerusalem Israel Television's Channel 1, the police minister said that Yig'al 'Amir is the main figure in the planning and perpetration of the murder. His partners are Hagay, his brother, and Dror 'Adani, who helped him. The police minister reported that a group that has been active for two years organized around 'Amir. Some of the members dealt with planning and some with implementation. They accumulated explosives and weapons, some of which were stolen and some of which were manufactured by Hagay 'Amir. They were meant to be used to hurt the prime minister and to carry out attacks against Palestinians. The number of detainees is not yet final, and the detentions will continue. The circle of those who knew about the group's activity is larger than the number of those involved in the planning and implementation.

[In a live interview in the studio with Police Minister Moshe Shahal on Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 10 November, interviewer Yisra'el Segal points out that on the basis of the explosives discovered in 'Amir's house, as well as the confession attained during the interrogation, the police concluded that "the explosives were intended for mass attacks against the Palestinian population." Shahal responds that in addition to the weapons intended for the assassination of the prime minister, "they accumulated numerous weapons, some stolen, some manufactured by Hagay 'Amir, with the intention of planning attacks on Palestinians on a large scale."

[Asked about 'Amir's previous attempts to assassinate the prime minister, Shahal says that "on three previous occasions, Yig'al Amir himself was involved, armed and ready to reach the prime minister. Once, on the day of the Bet Lid incident, the prime minister was scheduled to inaugurate a Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial facility but did not make it, and Yig'al could not carry out the crime. The second time, during the inauguration of the Kefar Shemaryahu overpass, Yig'al was too far away and could not get near Rabin. The third was the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

attempt on 4 November, when he succeeded, to my regret." Shahal adds that "there were many other cases" in which Yig'al was involved, "but not by himself."]

Further on Group's Plans

TA1211065595 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Defense establishment sources are taking a grave view of reports that the members of the group that assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin also planned to attack Arabs and disrupt the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] redeployment in the West Bank. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports:

[Ben-Menahem] The IDF redeployment in the West Bank is due to begin tomorrow and defense establishment officials have expressed relief that the Jewish terrorist organization was exposed before the redeployment began. The members of this group, which also planned to harm Arabs, apparently conspired to carry out terrorist attacks in the center of Arab towns such as Janin, Nabulus, and Hebron. It is obvious to everyone that a terrorist attack against Arabs in Hebron, after the massacre at the Cave of the Patriarchs perpetrated by Barukh Goldstein [in February 1994], could have an effect on future negotiations with the Palestinians and on the IDF redeployment.

Police officials also suspect that the members of the group planned to attack Palestinian policemen in an attempt to heat up the atmosphere and generate tension between the Palestinian policemen and the IDF. Group members sought to prove that the Palestinian police were incapable of dealing with the Jewish right-wing. As for the links between the members of the group and a certain religious authority, the security authorities are currently investigating whether the conspirators maintained direct or indirect links with several rabbis. The possibility that they were connected to Rabbi 'Uzi Meshulam [Yemenite rabbi currently imprisoned following a Waco-like standoff with police last year] is also being investigated. Although there is still no proof, there are rumors that the assassin Yig'al 'Amir met with Rabbi Meshulam several times. The police know that Rabbi Meshulam has many supporters in Judaea and Samaria, in the settlement of Tapuah for example, and that several of Meshulam's supporters are linked to the EYAL [Irgun Yehudi Lohem] and the Kahana Hay organizations.

Group Suspected of Making Car Bombs

TA1211104395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The members of the organization led by the brothers 'Amir are also suspected of making car bombs. This was revealed during a hearing on the extension of the remand of Hagay 'Amir, who is suspected of abetting the murder. The judge extended his remand by 12 days.

Our correspondent 'Anat Peleg reports that for the first time, Hagay 'Amir's parents appeared in court. His mother held a note saying: Hagay be strong, we love you and will get you an attorney.

Seven people have now been arrested in connection with the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, including Arik Schwartz, a soldier on active service with the Golani Brigade.

Police Findings in Rabin Assassination Reported

TA1111194895 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Nov 95

[Report by police affairs correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] We begin our program with new findings from the investigation into the assassination of the late Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. The brothers Yig'al and Hagay 'Amir had planned to assassinate Rabin near his home in Ramat Aviv [a Tel Aviv neighborhood], but after lengthy preparations they chose the rally in Malkhey Yisra'el Square as the scene of the murder.

Our police affairs correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports on the findings from the investigation being conducted by the Shin Bet and the Tel Aviv Police's Central Unit:

A sniper rifle with a telescopic lens was meant to be the murder weapon. The intention of the 'Amir brothers was to hit the late prime minister from a distance, as he walked either in or out of his house on Harav Ashi Street in Tel Aviv. The two staked out the area and followed Rabin's movements around his house for a long time. They checked his timetable and security arrangements and looked for an appropriate firing position. They planned to use a Volkswagen rabbit as the getaway car after the assassination and prepared several escape routes after the shooting. There is as yet no final conclusion as to why the 'Amir brothers abandoned this plan, to which they devoted months of efforts. They also went to at least five other locations, either alone or with others, equipped with weapons in

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

order to carry out an assassination, but ultimately they did not shoot because they ran into difficulties.

Their plan was to carry out the assassination in such a way as to manage to escape. We have learned that the investigators know the name of a rabbi with whom the assassins are believed to have been in contact. We do not know whether the investigators have contacted this rabbi.

The Tel Aviv Police say five suspects are being held in custody at this point, and that Hagay 'Amir will be brought before a judge tomorrow to be remanded in custody. However, another suspect whose name has not yet been released was apparently arrested over the weekend. He is an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier serving in an elite commando unit. This evening the Tel Aviv Police would not comment in any way on this report. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1900 GMT on 11 November adds: "The investigation into Rabin's assassination has expanded and the number of people being held in custody now stands at six. Our correspondents Yoni Ben-Menahem and Shim'on Vilna'i report that the two new detainees are a first sergeant serving with an elite unit and his father, who live on the Bene Beraq-Ramat Gan boundary. The soldier is suspected of having been involved in the conspiracy to assassinate the prime minister. Explosives and weapons were uncovered in a search of his home. The terrorist group set up two years ago and led by the 'Amir brothers was supposed to use those weapons to carry out additional attacks."]

'Arafat Visits Leah Rabin To Pay Condolences

TA1011054295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, late last night, paid a condolence visit to Le'a Rabin at her home in Tel Aviv. Mrs. Rabin told 'Arafat: My husband regarded you as his partner in peace. 'Arafat told her: We have lost a great man who made the peace of the brave with us. He was our partner, and we thank you for continuing his road and his march.

The PLO leader, on his return to Gaza after the 90-minute visit, said he told Le'a Rabin he could not participate in the funeral for security reasons. 'Arafat, who flew from Gaza to Tel Aviv, was accompanied by PLO negotiators Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] and Abu- Ala' [Ahmad Quray']. The visit was initiated by Yosi Ginosar, formerly of the security services.

Peres Receives King Husayn Phone Call, Support

TA1211182595 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Prime Minister's Office says King Husayn phoned Shim'on Peres yesterday to express his own personal support and that of the Jordanian people in the acting prime minister and his peace policies.

Territories Closure Further Eased

TA1211095695 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The closure imposed on the territories following the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin has been further eased. Starting today, workers over the age of 28 will be granted entry into Israel.

Rabinovich Doubts Syria's Willingness To Push Talks

TA1011112095 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Nov 95 p 22

[Report by Hillel Kuttler]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Attempts to restart Israel-Syria talks will resume in the coming weeks, but doubts remain about Damascus's willingness to move ahead, Ambassador to the US Itamar Rabinovich said yesterday.

The late prime minister Yitzhaq Rabin was considering the options for moving the talks ahead and "these efforts will continue when we have a government in place," Rabinovich, Israel's chief negotiator in the Syria talks, told the National Press Club.

"But the basic question that has been with us for months remains with us: do we have a partner for these negotiations, a partner not only in a sense of wanting an agreement with Israel, but making the decisions that will make such an agreement possible. That was a question mark that hovered over these negotiations for the past few months, and it is still hovering. This question mark needs to be addressed in the next few weeks."

"We are determined to proceed but we first need to have definitive answers," Rabinovich said.

US peace team coordinator Dennis Ross is likely to return to the region soon, "not necessarily" to handle those talks, said Rabinovich, but rather to assess the mood in the region in the aftermath of Rabin's death.

Rabinovich also said that while he had "no expectations" for a Syrian expression of condolence over Rabin's death, he admitted that "I'm disappointed." However,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

he said that the absence of a Syrian statement is "not an impediment to the resumption" of the talks.

[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 10 November publishes on page 2 a report by Ben Kaspit and Avino'am Bar-Yosef, adding: "Israeli political sources in Jerusalem assess that the negotiations between Israel and Syria will resume shortly in the shape of a U.S. shuttle mission between Jerusalem and Damascus."

["An Israeli political source in Jerusalem told MA'ARIV yesterday: 'Syria is undoubtedly showing signs of a willingness to resume the negotiations and perhaps even to turn over a new page in everything related to the procedural controversies.'"]

Peres: No Decision To Push Repeal of Direct Election Law

TA1011125195 Tel Aviv DAVAR RISHON in Hebrew 10 Nov 95 p 2

[Report by Arye Dayan]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday, Acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres denied reports that he has decided to push for the repeal of the law for the direct election of the prime minister. Peres issued the denial yesterday during a meeting with Education and Culture Minister Amnon Rubinstein, who was one of the initiators of the direct elections bill during the Knesset's previous term.

Approximately six months ago, Peres, who is opposed to direct elections, initiated a debate at the Labor Party's institutions designed to bring about the abrogation of the law.

The late Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin supported the bill and was opposed to Peres' initiative. On the eve of the Labor Party convention, Rabin and Peres agreed to put off discussing the issue until the party's next convention, scheduled for April 1996.

At his meeting with Minister Rubinstein yesterday, Peres clarified that he did not make any statements about the direct elections bill during the last few days and has still not formulated his position with regard to future steps.

Peres Turns Down Shin Bet Head's Offer To Resign

TA1111200195 Jerusalem Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Nov 95

[Talk in the studio between anchorman Gay Zohar and political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Zohar] A somber atmosphere prevails in the Shin Bet as a result of the growing number of calls to depose its chief. The issue came up in a meeting between the acting prime minister and the chief. Our correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen joins us from the Tel Aviv studio. Shalom, Imanu'el.

[Rosen] Shalom, Gay.

[Zohar] What was said in the meeting?

[Rosen] It was a severe meeting. The head of the Shin Bet is very upset because of both the assassination itself, of course, and the growing number of calls for his resignation, including by former Shin Bet executives such as former chief Ya'aqov Peri, who did not urge him to quit but said that is what he would do. The head of the Shin Bet told Peres: If that is the situation, then I am prepared to resign. However, Peres told him: No, not at this point. I ask you to remain in your job.

[Zohar] Why did he actually turn down the offer?

[Rosen] Because Peres believes that at this time the Shin Bet must regain its preassassination stability and that now is not the time for yet another shake-up in view of the serious missions still ahead: The pullout from Janin begins in two days, and the entire situation in the territories is going to change. Peres' position at the moment is that the head of the Shin Bet must remain in his job. However, this does not indicate what his position will be after the state commission of inquiry submits its conclusions.

Labor Appoints Team for Coalition Talks

TA1011060895 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Labor Party has appointed a team of six to conduct the negotiations on establishing a new coalition government. The six are cabinet Ministers David Liba'i, Yosi Beilin, Moshe Shahal, and 'Uzi Bar'am; the secretary general of the party, Nisim Zvili; and the coalition chairman Ra'anan Kohen.

President Weizman is due to begin consultations on the new government with the various faction heads next Tuesday [14 November], which will last two days.

Labor Bureau Nominates Peres for Prime Minister

TA1211202495 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1930 GMT 12 Nov 95

[Report by party affairs correspondent Yaron Deqel]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Labor Bureau tonight held a short meeting at which Shim'on Peres was unanimously nominated for prime minister. This Labor Bureau recommendation will be put up for the Labor Central Committee's approval at its meeting in Tel Aviv at 2000 [1800 GMT] tomorrow.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

These procedures are being observed in anticipation of the consultations President Weizman will hold beginning 14 November. The Labor faction will be the first to consult with the president, and it has to formally elect its candidate before the meeting with the president. [passage omitted]

Here are a few quotes from Peres' remarks at the Labor Bureau meeting. He said: Instead of my eulogizing Yitzhaq, Yitzhaq was very close to being here to eulogize me. We shared the same fate, says Shim'on Peres at the Labor Bureau meeting. Echoing his own remarks at the Mann Auditorium this afternoon, Peres said: I will act with fairness toward people and our course of action. I do not feel a shred of hatred, rancor, or personal ambition. Shim'on Peres said: I am fully convinced that the course Yitzhaq and I and all of you pursued is the right one. He added: If we remain united, we will be a formidable force, but if we quarrel, it will be a waste of an opportunity and time. These were Peres' remarks at the Labor Bureau session a few minutes ago.

The security measures around the Labor headquarters, where the meeting was held, were unprecedented. The entire Hayarqon Street was sealed off, and neither vehicular nor pedestrian traffic was permitted. Dozens of policemen, border policemen, and members of the Shin Bet's Personal Protection Unit guarded the place. A metal detector was placed at the Labor headquarters entrance, and dogs were used to inspect ingoing equipment. All reporters were removed from the premises. Upon arrival, each cabinet minister was escorted by two police vans and police motorbikes, which sounded their sirens. [passage omitted]

[A similar report on Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1930 GMT on 12 November adds that Shim'on Peres told the Labor Bureau members: "As foreign minister, I highlighted political issues. As future prime minister, I cannot view the assignment as merely a political one, without a defense dimension. I will do all I can to maintain Israel's security and strength."]

Peres May Keep Defense Portfolio; Ramon Back to Labor

TA1311075195 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT

[Report by party affairs correspondent Yaron Deqel — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Deqel] On 15 November, or at the latest on the 16th, Peres will receive a mandate to form a government from President 'Ezer Weizman. Labor Secretary General Nisim Zvili told us last night that the idea was to complete the matter within a week:

[Zvili] We will do this as quickly as possible.

[Deqel] Meaning what?

[Zvili] Meaning by the middle of next week. Soon after he [Peres] returns from abroad, I believe, he will present his government even if it is backed by 63 Knesset members.

[Deqel] This will be one week from the day he is assigned to establish a government.

[Zvili] We very much hope it will take a week between the Central Committee approval [of Peres' candidacy] and the Knesset approval [of the cabinet]. [passage omitted]

[Deqel] Speaking at the Labor Bureau, Peres, a seasoned politician, gave more than a general idea about his intention to assume the role of defense minister in addition to being prime minister — defense minister, not foreign minister. He said: As foreign minister, I naturally highlighted the political aspect. In my new capacity, the one you tasked me with, there is no political role without a defense foundation. I will do all I can to maintain Israel's security and strength.

We asked Zvili, who knows Peres so well, to interpret these remarks.

[Zvili] It is my understanding that he considers the security aspect to be an important and central issue, in addition to the political and peace process. He will try to have this portfolio held by the most trusted hands.

[Deqel] You mean his own hands?

[Zvili] The most trusted, as he sees it. I do not know the answer to this.

[Deqel] Peres told his associates that he has not yet made a final decision on the issue.

Incidentally, the acting prime minister will meet Histadrut Secretary General Hayim Ramon tomorrow morning. It may be that by the time they meet, Ramon will already be a full-fledged Labor member. Speaking on Israel Television last night, Ramon gave more than a hint to that effect:

[Ramon] It is clear that the decision, which could have been made in several months, is currently needed. I believe that the people who support and want me, would like me to be a Labor member today.

[Deqel] Ramon is on his way to Labor, and the mix and match process of forming a government is on its way starting this evening.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Sarid Says Meretz Has No Cabinet Claims

TA1311083395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Minister Yosi Sarid has said that Meretz has no claims regarding the formation of the new government. He told our party affairs correspondent that it is Meretz' duty to do everything possible to make it easy for Shim'on Peres to form the government. We have but one wish — that the government is set up as soon as possible and thus to be able to carry out Rabin's legacy and make peace, Sarid said.

Peres, Netanyahu Meet, Agree To Work for Tolerance

TA1311104695 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] This morning, Acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu held a 30-minute meeting at the prime minister's bureau in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Dani Zaqen reports that at the end of the meeting, Netanyahu said that an effort must be made to change Israel's domestic politics. In the conversation, the two agreed that the prime minister and the head of the opposition will spearhead the effort. According to Netanyahu, the two will work, each in his own camp, to create an atmosphere that permits holding a serious debate while observing mutual respect and tolerance.

Netanyahu added that the full force of the law must be employed against the minority that supports violence and murder and cast it out. Answering a question regarding his own soul searching, Netanyahu said that everyone in Israel today thinks that he could have done more before the murder. He refused to comment on his party's chances of winning the next elections.

IDF Pleased With Janin Redeployment

TA1311105395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Major General Ilan Biran, commander of the Central Command, said this morning that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops performed the Janin area redeployment correctly. According to the plan, the redeployment in that area will end by the weekend. Speaking to our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem, Gen. Biran said that the joint IDF-Palestinian Police patrols will start tomorrow, and Palestinian policemen will be stationed in six stations in the Janin area by the weekend. Gen. Biran added that there is no change in redeployment plans for other cities in Judaea and Samaria, and the redeployment in Tulkarm will be held at the end of the month, as planned.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 13 November adds: "Settlers in the Janin area have received a letter from the commander of IDF units in that area listing conduct instructions upon the hand over of Janin to the Palestinian Authority. Our settlers affairs correspondent Gil Litman reports that the document details a series of recommendations regarding travel on the roads in that area. The IDF officer writes that the Palestinian police are not authorized to arrest Israeli citizens but, under irregular circumstances, they may detain him temporarily. Another clause states that, in certain villages, a Palestinian policeman may ask an Israeli settler to show some ID, and the settler must show it to him."]

New Jewish Neighborhood Approved in East Jerusalem

TA1011180295 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Nov 95 p A10

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Jerusalem district committee for planning and construction approved the establishment of a Jewish neighborhood consisting of 132 housing units in the Ra's al-'Amud area in East Jerusalem.

The neighborhood is slated to be established on an area covering approximately 15 dunams purchased by Dr. Erwin Moscowitz, a Jewish tycoon and one of the biggest donors to the 'Ateret Kohanim nonprofit association. The plan for the neighborhood was prepared by architect Dan Yizre'eli and approved by the Jerusalem Municipality's planning committee back in the days of Mayor Teddy Kollek.

Ministers Seek To Ban Entry of Jewish American 'Extremists'

TA1111153695 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Interior Minister Ehud Baraq has ordered ministry staffers to look into legal and practical ways to prevent the entry into Israel of Jewish American extremists who engage in incitement in the United States. Our correspondent Gay Qotev notes that this applies to activists in radical organizations whose utterances constitute prima facie felonies.

Minister Yosi Sarid says that if there is no other way to prevent the arrival in Israel of American Jews who have voiced support for Rabin's assassination and who are raising funds for the assassin's defense, then the Law of Return must be changed. Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that according to Minister Sarid, the Interior Ministry and the Immigrant Absorption

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Ministry should compile a list of all these people and prohibit their entry now and in the future.

Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department, will propose to the Jewish Agency executive to prevent immigration to Israel of American Jews holding radical positions. Gordon told our correspondent Esti Perez that the Jewish Defense League is the spiritual mentor of Kakh and Kahana Hay, which have been pronounced terror movements in Israel. No democratic state can afford to allow terrorists to enter its territory, said Gordon, who proposed to examine the relevance of the Law of Return to the current reality.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 11 November adds: "Immigrant Absorption Minister Ya'ir Tzaban is opposed to amending the Law of Return, arguing that existing legislation provides for stringent measures to prevent the arrival in Israel of Jewish terrorist elements who might endanger the public's well-being. Our correspondent Esti Perez has learned that Minister Tzaban approached the incumbent authorities on various occasions, but that his demands went unheeded. One of the most prominent members of the radical Jewish organizations in the United States whose job it is to recruit activists and train them in the use of arms, came to Israel a few weeks ago. Minister Tzaban informed the security authorities about it, but as far as is known the man was only detained for a short time and then released."

["Meretz faction chairman Ran Kohen demands that the Justice Ministry file an official complaint with the U.S. Administration against Kahana supporters who call for assassinating government ministers and all Knesset members, and who extend financial aid to the extreme right-wing organizations in Israel. Kohen urges the Justice Ministry to demand that the Americans arrest the heads of their organization, impound their money, and prosecute them according to the same laws with which the United States fights the Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad terrorist organizations. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that Kohen also filed a complaint with the Israel Police against the heads of the organization in the United States, so that they may be arrested as soon as they set foot on Israeli soil and prosecuted in accordance with the Antiterror Act."]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

King Speaks on Domestic, Regional Issues

JN0911200295 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Address by King Husayn to senior Armed Forces, Public Security, General Intelligence, and Civil Defense officers at the King Husayn Medical Center in Amman on 9 November— recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I thank my brother the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for his opening remarks on behalf of the personnel of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces and those whom you represent at this meeting. Please convey my thanks and those of the homeland to everyone, to your fellow officers, NCO's, and other ranks. Please convey to them my gratitude and that of the citizens for what they have offered and given. You will always remain the shield of the homeland and its hopes and aspirations. You are the guardians of the trust, and the soldiers of right. You are the defenders of the homeland, its right to life, and its immortal stands under all circumstances. This country is the inheritor of the mission and the carrier of the trust. With the help of God Almighty and the vigilance and loyalty of this country's youths and men, at the forefront of which are those whom you represent at this meeting. This country is strong.

You are entitled to a large portion of our thanks for all the efforts and constant vigilance in the preparations for the recent economic summit in Amman, the capital of accord and reconciliation. Consequently, the meeting was a success. Everyone around the world has become acquainted with our homeland, Jordan, this hospitable, strong, and proud country. This is a country that looks forward to the future with confidence and hope. It is resolved and determined to ever be an example and a model. Many of those who visited Jordan did so for the first time. This afforded the opportunity to hold many meetings on various levels with officials and representatives of various states and world organizations. There have also been meetings with businessmen and private sector representatives from all over the world. Then, a large number of journalists arrived in Jordan to cover that major event. God be praised, we have been hearing nothing but appreciation and admiration for the excellent preparation, hospitality, and for the great efforts that have been exerted to acquaint the world with Jordan. Consequently, this will provide numerous chances to begin work very soon to achieve the aspired economic progress in this homeland and the region and to establish many productive ventures. This will provide opportunities for our youths and citizens to live the life they have been denied for so long under different circumstances in the past. God be praised for the success. We are full of confidence and hopes about a promising future, God willing.

As for the Armed Forces—with all those who are affiliated with them, who represent the peak of awareness, dedication, and sacrifice on the land of Jordan—they are really the apple of the eye and a source of hope.

Many events have taken place these days. We have heard about them, and we were touched by them. These events have drawn the attention to the need to review many positions and contemplate the situation we are living in.

Regarding the economic summit or any other great achievement of this country, we must acknowledge that this country has received admiration, appreciation, and love from outside parties which admired this country's sacrifices, manliness, purity, and clarity, as well as the good manners of Jordan's sons and kinfolk.

Every newspaper in the world has lauded this achievement. Every [foreign] official and visitor has hailed Jordan and its achievements. Everyone has felt that this country is much larger than its size and state of affairs.

In the internal arena, however, I believe that everyone should have thanked, appreciated, and hoped for the future, and should have expressed self-confidence and pride in what was realized and achieved. We have only found a few echoes for all this here.

We have experienced this phenomenon throughout the years. This country, which has made sacrifices and continues to make sacrifices constantly, deserves much more than this from everyone—whether writers, media men, journalists, newspapers, or citizens.

With regard to citizens, I am filled with gratitude, appreciation, and admiration, and I am fully reassured that the overwhelming majority of people are with this country and that they believe in it, adhere to it, and take pride in it, in its achievements, and in the sacrifices it has made and continues to make while constantly being in the lead.

The overwhelming majority has expressed itself on several occasions. I assert and pledge to you that we will continue to serve the pure and clean man who holds his head high in this homeland. This good man is present in northern, southern, and central Jordan, and also in the Jordanian desert and valley—which is green with God's help. This man is also present in this Army, and these Armed Forces in the cities, desert, and elsewhere.

By the overwhelming majority I mean the majority which is often silent against the few loud voices which

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

are often croaking out, foretelling havoc, destruction, despair, and frustration, and which also rush toward darkness and disorder with everything they can muster. However, good is in this country, in its sons, and in the many good ones in this homeland.

The latest event in this region has been the fall of one of the soldiers of peace. He has paid a great price for his belief in peace, and for his endeavor to reach and realize this peace. This has opened a new line of thinking, prompting us to consider many dimensions on which we have not concentrated in the past as we should have.

One of our papers came up with the headline: "Killers Are Now Minus One." I believe, and in the opinion of any man of honor, any man, and any human being, the killers are now plus one. This man who is no longer with us, when he was a soldier serving his homeland, realized the greatest military achievements—irrespective of our positions at the time—before he moved to the ranks of those who fight for peace and those who work to realize peace. It was said that luckily the killer was from a certain group and from a certain nationality. It is time to say that all terrorists, irrespective of their nationalities, positions, and motives, belong to the same creed. No difference between them at all. They are enemies of this life, of morals, of people, of humanity, of stability, security, and peace. It is said that what happened was the result of democracy and freedom, and a result of people enjoying certain rights to the extent that they can call on nationals of other countries, or whoever responds to them, to commit such deeds.

Here I would like to stop talking about what happened there in order to look at what is happening here. I would like to remind my brothers, my brother the prime minister, the man I greatly trust; my brother the crown prince here; my brothers the officers and commanders here, that if such climates led to what happened there, then I should say that we are living in the same climate here.

Democracy does not mean crossing red lines in order to undermine national unity in this country and blow up everything of value in this country, tarnishing every achievement in this country, achievements of the nation's children, the patient, real men.

I have said in this hall, that I do not feel that there are any media in this country that identify with this country. I am referring to the media in general, whether official or nonofficial. There are no media to defend the country and its achievements, to highlight the bright manifestations and pictures in this country. I always find a process of destruction, penetration, and ruination so that this country might be humiliated. But this country will never be humiliated.

The rats have come out of their holes. Those who have observed what happened during the short period of time that has passed must have heard me say that I am not Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Jordan is not Libya in this auspicious era. We do not deal with our citizens as al-Qadhdhafi does with his people and with the Palestinian brothers in his country—his guests. We are all citizens in this country, both emigrants and supporters [allusion to Jordanian- Palestinian coexistence]. We have dealt with the shortcomings when we discovered their existence. We could not deny Jordanian nationality to Jordanians who have one-hundred percent right to this nationality because they were affiliated with this country for a very long time. Some of them were treated in an improper manner. We have said that whoever works to destroy or harm national unity in this country in any way whatsoever will be my enemy until doomsday.

I do not know if any of my brothers here read the rancorous newspapers, the numerous papers, the discordant articles, and the slander aimed against this country, at all levels, from the leadership down to the people—the people who fostered their brothers and family; the people who stood fast, who sacrificed, and who have always been generous; who provided a refuge for every human being who wanted to feel safe on Arab soil and among his Arab brothers and for those who were searching for stability, tranquility, and security, and found the doors wide open.

This is a very ugly chauvinistic view which is very different from what is in our hearts and minds. Some writers said the leadership wants to appease the Palestinians at the expense of the Jordanians. Some of them have gone as far as saying the leadership was alien to Jordan in the first place. What is Jordan? This Jordan was built — with your help — by this leadership, which saved it from the plots that targeted it. This Jordan is an example and a model to all Arabs. [applause]

Some of them make criticisms in the sermons they deliver from the pulpits of mosques, which should be places to preach virtue through wisdom, good words, and noble values. Some criticize what we did as a duty toward a person who cooperated with us to achieve peace and with whom we managed — through dialogue, frankness, and clarity — to regain our land and waters. We managed to do this against the backdrop of a position that lasted from 1967 until our Palestinian brothers decided to move alone to determine their own destiny and address their own affairs and situation; a position, which, as he [Yitzhaq Rabin] has repeatedly said, in which I did not agree to bargain over an inch of the Palestinian territory or any of the rights of our people there on their national soil.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

When the matter was no longer in our hands, according to the wishes of our Palestinian brothers, the Arab, the Muslims, and the entire world; when we were preceded several years before by people who took charge and offered sacrifices on the path of peace; when we all moved in the direction of peace after a decision that was made here by those who represented the people as a whole, those who were elected for any post, in a grand national meeting; and after our brothers moved away from the [Jordanian] canopy to the sun and began to act, reach agreements, and make achievements — we moved to rescue our land, waters, and rights, and the right of this country to life.

As you recall, the argument was at the beginning: Sign a peace agreement first, and then discuss the details. We rejected that. The man [Rabin] accepted our viewpoint. Tough talks ensued and persistent efforts were made by all until a just and honorable peace, which returned to each party its rights, was achieved and placed us at the threshold of a prosperous future, God willing. A relationship, a friendship was developed, and with the will of God, the enemy turned into a close friend. When a man falls as a man, we must give them [the Israelis] credit as they would give us credit.

In my meetings with him [Rabin] and with those of his generation, I sensed appreciation for this army and for its manliness and heroism, as well as an appreciation for this country. They held it against us when we went to pay our respects to him and shook hands with him. Before these days, one of them, who is the vice president of a sisterly Arab country, wrote to my brother [Prime Minister] Bin-Shakir, telling him: You were once my friend, but it would not be my honor to shake the hand that shook Rabin's hand. We are not honored to shake their hands because they are only concerned about their interests, because they only believe in themselves, because they only work to serve themselves, because they are too cowardly to face their responsibilities to work for the future of this nation and to rescue these Arab people everywhere from their predicament. [applause]

We are now at the threshold of a new stage of our life, the stage of building and giving. With my support and confidence I wish the government success in its work during the next stage. Many thanks to the government for what it did in preparing for the economic summit and rendering it a success. Many thanks also go to my brother [Crown Prince] Hasan for his relentless supervision of the summit and for all the efforts in this country in the economic field and in all other fields. He is an extension of myself in his assistance and support for every good effort in this homeland.

However, from my position as the elder brother, my advice to the the silent majority is to make a move and have its say in all of this nonsense; resist the forces of darkness; and project the real image of this country and these people. The people expressed their emotions once in my life, after I recovered from a serious disease and returned home. It is an expression of sentiment I will never forget. It will remain my goal for as long as I live to work for the good and future of these people and to provide their sons and daughters with all the opportunities for a promising and better future, with God's help. [chants followed by applause]

Let us say it frankly and clearly: Do not destroy democracy in the name of democracy. Do not exploit tolerance to destroy the democracy in this country. We are seeking to lift the Jordanians up to the level where they can fulfill their ambitions and shoulder responsibility in the face of challenges and dangers.

Do not be ungrateful. Do not be mean. Remember what this country has provided for you. Regardless of what is being said, this country is strong and capable of putting every wrongdoer in his place. This country's approach is that of tolerance. Even at this particular moment, I am hopeful that people will correct their path — a chance that I hope will be the last for people to reconsider their stands. Or else, the camp of evil will remain as such, and the camp of good will remain as such. The camp of darkness, death, and destruction will remain as such and the camp of life, peace, security, and stability will remain as such. We belong to the latter camp with all of our potentials and capabilities in fulfillment of our duty toward all future generations. [applause]

Please ask my brothers in the Supreme Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution or any other related party or, through dialogue; take the necessary measures at the level of the government, people, and their representatives concerning two issues. First is this bad and harmful press and media. The press and media of this country should reflect the true nature of this country and the true feelings of its sons and daughters. Let the press do justice to this country.

I allude to the wonders and strange things in the press, and things that were introduced into the press. It seems that our actions were not realistic when we removed all restrictions. The greatest punishment for any trespasser on anything in this country is 1,000 dinars—that is, if he is tried at all. There must be restrictions, deterrents. We must reconsider attitudes toward those who harm public values and morals. This is not the level which we hoped for or wanted for our press in the era of democracy, freedom, and respect for human rights in this country.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Concerning our professional unions and their chieftains. Is their behavior constitutional? Do they truly represent the thousands and thousands of active people in this country? Do they serve their professions, for whose members they claim to care? Will these crooked conditions continue? What is the difference between politics and professions? Why is politics not left to the politicians and those who are freely elected by the people to represent them in the House of Representatives?

Is it right for the few, some of whom are ungrateful, thankless, and unappreciative, to prevent the engineers, for instance, or the doctors from participating in the country's upcoming progress? Is this democracy or dictatorship? Current circumstances oblige us to speak clearly and frankly to our brothers and sons, and to call on everyone to be alert to everything that goes on. Help ye one another in righteousness and piety, but help ye not one another in sin and rancor. [Koranic verse] Let us build this country and serve this nation with God's help, and realize our hopes and aspirations in the fullest possible way.

As for me, I was a child when the founder of this kingdom, my grandfather, 'Abdallah Ibn-al-Husayn, fell. That day he was strangely and extraordinarily relaxed. He went to meet his God as a martyr. If I have to die, I only wish that it be like the death of 'Abdallah Ibn-al-Husayn.

We do not fear anyone when we say the truth [applause]. Our lives are in God's hands. Until the last moment in my life, I will be for you, from you, and with you, so that my conscience is relieved, and so that I may serve God Almighty. I look forward to meeting God with my book of my deeds in hand, God willing. [shouts of "Long Live the King"] May God bless you all. [applause] May the blessings of God be upon you.

House of Representatives Backs Speech

JN1011201895 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1810 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Statement issued by the House of Representatives in Amman on 10 November; read by House Speaker Sa'd Hayil al-Surur — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A statement from the House of Representatives to the esteemed Jordanian people.

God said: Verily, this nation of yours is a single nation and I am your lord and cherisher; and therefore, serve me and no other.

God said: For the scum disappears like froth cast out; while that which is for the good of mankind remains on the earth.

God said: And fear the trial which affects not in particular only those who do wrong, and know that Allah is strict in punishment. [Koranic verses]

Our beloved homeland is progressing with confidence toward a loftier and higher status, and with the hope that the present and the future will realize the ambitions of its historic Hashemite leadership and its Arab people who look forward to the future with ever-raised heads. It is now clear that this Arab country has great status, respect, and presence in all international forums— political, economic, and human—which cannot be denied, tarnished, or belittled.

Yesterday His Majesty King Husayn, may God preserve him, chose to address his faithful people through our Jordanian Armed Forces, the honest and sincere elite, the wall of the homeland and its impregnable shield, which maintained its professionalism and martyrdom and has never deviated from the traditions of the genuine Islamic army in any circumstances. They have been faithful to their military honor and to the supremacy of the law and the constitution. His majesty's address was a symbol and a message, paying tribute to everything that is noble, truthful, and original in this nation.

His Majesty emphasized the House of Representatives' political role as the genuine representative of the people, the true expression of their conscience and true aspirations. Therefore, the House of Representatives, which shares with his majesty and the Jordanian people their concern about malfunctions, deviations, and trespasses, emphasizes the noble values and principles listed below and announces that it will be committed to institutional work for the sake of these principles:

1. Democracy, whose good seeds were planted by His Majesty in the soil of this homeland and in the conscience of its people, is an ultimate, irreversible option. It is the people's means of supervision, accountability, and rectification for the sake of a stronger Jordan and a dear homeland. Democracy, which is strengthened by more responsible democracy, requires perpetual revision aimed at polishing and deepening performance, putting an end to trespasses resulting from the democratic implementations, rectifying malfunctions, and protecting the [democratic] march against any tampering, violations, trespasses, or deviations from the constitution.

It has been determined by experiment and practice how right the leader's option was when he opened the windows for the resumption of the democratic march. Great events occurred in our country and region, such

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

as the Gulf war, the peace process, and the economic reforms, from all of which our country emerged stronger and firmer.

Stressing firm and continued democratization, political pluralism, and respect for human rights and all public liberties, we must distinguish between the standing of the state, supremacy of law, security, and stability on the one hand and the use of democracy to kill democracy and spread chaos, sedition, and despair. According to all definitions and experiences, democracy means the compliance of the minority with the opinion of the majority and the majority's respect for the minority's opinion within the concept of pluralism. No one should claim to have a monopoly on the truth. Democracy necessitates the spread of democratic practice everywhere, including all the national Jordanian institutions, such as parties, unions, clubs, societies, federations, local councils, and associations.

2. The Constitution states and the law specifies the courses and methods of work governing performance of the press and the media. The press and the media are protected by the head of state and the House of Representatives, which passed a modern, democratic bill the objective of which is to maintain and safeguard the freedom of expression through peaceful, constitutional means that are in harmony with our moralities, values, and the principles of our tolerant religion. There is a noticeable phenomenon represented by the misuse of the climate of freedom made available by the Press and Publications Law in particular. Jordan's achievements and leaders are being abused. There is something which calls for concern as a result of the irresponsible statements, slander, libel, and focus on crime and ghastly cases which depict our country as if it were a den of crime, corruption, and terror. This is despite the fact that all fair-minded people praise the climate of security and stability in Jordan and our society's freedom from the social diseases afflicting many other societies. The Press and Publications Law as it stands or after revision must be a support for democracy and must provide the required atmosphere for a responsible freedom of expression stemming from the national necessities.

3. Following up the ongoing national dialogue, the House of Representatives wishes to stress a number of principles. Those principles are related to our sacred national unity, the source of our homeland's strength. This country firmly adheres to the values of the immigrants and supporters [allusion to Jordanian-Palestinian coexistence] and the values of the glorious Arab nation. Jordan was and will remain the homeland of all its children without any discrimination in rights or in duties. Those principles are as follows:

A. Regardless of their origins, the holders of Jordanian citizenship are Jordanian citizens with all the ensuing rights and duties. Raising doubts about that is against the Constitution and amounts to fomenting sedition, which is banned by law.

B. No individual or law has the right to strip anyone of his citizenship or question his loyalty and affiliation, for that contravenes human rights and the most basic religious, national, and constitutional principles.

C. We emphasize the two national Jordanian and Palestinian identities, pending the crystallization of the national Palestinian entity and the two peoples' free, voluntary decision on the form and content of the future relationship they wish to exist between them.

D. The measures the state has taken upon the instructions of His Majesty King Husayn with regard to Jordanian passport holders are not intended to achieve a political purpose. Jordan has constantly endeavored to ensure that the Palestinian brothers acquire their identity and obtain their legitimate national rights. It has done its utmost to defeat the illusions regarding the creation of a substitute homeland and to avert the eviction of the Palestinian territories.

It is our hope that these measures will be understood in their true humane and pan-Arab context, which has long made us different from those who profess to be advocates of sublime values while they engage in the most heinous forms of persecution and discrimination against their coreligionist Arabs. These measures are purely administrative. They reflect a continuation of Jordan's established traditions.

4. The House of Representatives believes that Jordanian associations are vital national institutions that should serve specific purposes in accordance with their own laws. These institutions should not violate these laws. It is everyone's right to engage in political action; this right is enshrined in the Constitution, which is the only instrument that could identify the political agencies allowed to operate. If any dispute emerges, there are legal and constitutional agencies that can make each and every party respect the rule of law. The rule of these agencies is binding on all.

While underlining our national accomplishments and our prestigious international standing, the House of Representatives would like to announce that it will work to correct all that needs to be corrected in the area of legislation in order to promote responsible democratic practice, social justice, security, and stability in response to the appeal made by the leader and also to meet the nation's needs.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Those who foment sedition, despair, frustration, parochialism, intellectual terrorism, and who mobilize the people against religious and pan-Arab values and principles and against the Constitution will be dealt with by the law at the hands of the Jordanian judiciary, whose integrity is irreproachable.

The House would like to assert its full and absolute adherence to the Constitution. The House will rally behind our Hashemite Arab leadership, which has protected Jordan's Arabism and faith and offered the nation martyrs and leaders, who have continued to uphold the values cherished by the Hashemite household.

The illustrious reputation of His Majesty King Husayn, may God protect him, is a precious asset and treasure in which Jordan takes pride. The reputation of his majesty the king inside and outside Jordan, which is not easily acquired by leaders, is the outcome of an instinctive and strong cohesion between the leader and the people. This is the best thing for which one can aspire.

We beseech God to protect blessed Jordan's security and stability, and to keep the leader as an asset and a beacon. And say: Work righteousness: Soon will God observe your work, and His apostle, and the believers. [part of Koranic verse] May God's peace be upon you.

Parties, Figures Support Speech

JN1111121295

[FBIS Editorial Report] The three main Jordanian Arabic daily newspapers AL-DUSTUR, AL-RA'Y, and AL-ASWAQ on 11 November publish on their inside pages reactions by Jordanian political parties and figures to King Husayn's address to senior Jordanian Armed Forces, Public Security, General Intelligence, and Civil Defense officers at King Husayn Medical Center in Amman on 9 November.

The reactions are from al-'Ahd [Pledge] Party, the Democratic Arab Islamic Movement Party-Du'a', and al-Ahrar [Liberals] Party, as well as from Dr. 'Abdallah al-Nusur, head of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Jordanian House of Representatives, and Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, a former Jordanian foreign minister. All these parties and officials pledge support for King Husayn's 9 November speech.

The three dailies note that al-'Ahd Party sent a cable of support to King Husayn, saying "the party discussed the clear directives included in His Majesty King Husayn's speech to our Armed Forces, as well as his call for rationalizing our democratic march." The cable notes that "while supporting the king's speech, the party calls for finding legal and constitutional solutions to rationalize our democratic march and uproot the sources of tampering and encroachments, so our good march will continue with God's guidance and people's support under King Husayn's wise leadership." The al- 'Ahd Party cable adds: "We demand that the government take legal measures to deter those who harm democracy."

The papers report that Du'a' has issued a statement commending King Husayn's speech, saying: "Du'a' blesses the comprehensive national and pan-Arab speech and prays to God to grant King Husayn further resolve, strength, and wisdom, so he will continue to carry the heavy noble message. Du'a' also pledges to God Almighty that it will remain the soldier defending the message of Arabism and Islam and waging a real struggle to the best of its ability to fulfill this message."

The three dailies cite a statement issued by al-Ahrar Party, which says: "As always, His Majesty King Husayn, who is known for his honesty, frankness, and clarity, has crossed the t's and dotted the i's and warned against what is taking place in our country by a small group. This group seeks to undermine our values and what our minds and conscience believe in."

The statement adds: "Democracy does not mean harming others and encroaching on them. Freedom does not mean destroying the homeland's achievements and distorting its bright image." It asserts that al-Ahrar party supports the peace camp and that life, hope, future, and courage should triumph over darkness, the past, the concerns, the fears, and the evasion of responsibility.

The three dailies cite Dr. 'Abdallah al-Nusur, head of the Foreign Relations Committee in the House of Representatives, as saying: "His Majesty King Husayn's speech dearly addressed the Jordanian citizens and enlightened them about the threats posed during this phase." Discussing the Jordanian professional unions' interference in politics, al-Nusur calls for resorting to the law to decide on this issue and end the confusion.

He adds: "The professional unions played a good national role in the phase when the parliament and parties were absent. But after these institutions were established and given a strong push by his majesty, professional unions need not play a political role. Any member of these unions has the right to express his political opinion. These unions do not have the right to impose decisions on their members."

The dailies also cite former Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir as lauding King Husayn and his speech. He adds: "I believe that democracy is basically a commitment to rules, laws, and norms which should be observed and complied with." Dr. Abu-Jabir notes that "democracy also necessarily requires that there should

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

be limits and rules governing the behavior of citizens and groups inside the homeland."

Government To Comply With King's 'Directives'

JN1111102295 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 95 pp 1,2

[Report by P.V. Vivekanand and Natasha Bukhari]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Amman—The prime minister, al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, said Friday that his government would adopt necessary measures to protect Jordan's national unity and cohesiveness but that any step in this regard would be taken in accordance with the country's constitutional process.

"His Majesty King Husayn issued specific directives (in his speech to senior army and security officers Thursday) which the government will comply with," al-Sharif Zayd told the Jordan Times. "However, the government will not issue any emergency or temporary laws to achieve His Majesty's objectives," the prime minister added. "Any change in laws will be effected only in cooperation with Parliament." [passage omitted]

Directing certain remarks to the prime minister in his speech on Thursday, the King asked the government to "ask my brothers (members) of the Higher Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution or any concerned party or take measures through dialogue [concerning] what should be done at the levels of the government, people (and parliament) to be fair to this country."

That was seen as an explicit call on the executive authority to propose amendments to laws concerning the work and mandate of the professional unions and associations as well as the Press and Publications Law.

Al-Sharif Zayd told the Jordan Times on Friday: "We are determined to protect our democratic march and achievements. We will not allow anyone to abuse democratic freedoms to destroy the national fabric of society and democracy itself. We will continue to protect our accomplishments and our people's interests within the country's framework."

The prime minister did not say whether the government would introduce amendments to the Press and Publications Law or that of the professional associations when Parliament resumes its regular session in December. But government sources said that such legislative changes are being strongly considered as a way of stemming what is increasingly being viewed as incitement by especially the tabloid and political party press against the peace treaty with Israel.

One official described the approach of the tabloids as "verbal violence which could turn into physical violence."

According to a government source, "one way to counter that would be to bring down the threshold of punishment for violators of the law." One such measure could be a dramatic increase in fines imposed on those who are convicted of violating the Press and Publications Law.

The King's hard-hitting speech obviously stemmed from frustration over what many government officials describe as the immaturity of the local media and professional associations to recognise the inevitability of accepting the course of history and realities on the ground. [passage omitted]

Government Criticized on Israeli Ties, Normalization

JN1011162495 Amman AL-AHALI in Arabic 9 Nov 95 p 3

[Report by Ghazi Bani-Nasr]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Committee for Protecting the Homeland and Confronting Normalization held a seminar to mark the first anniversary of the Wadi al-'Arabah treaty. Deputy Dayfallah al-Mumani, Engineer Layth Shubaylat [president of the Jordanian Engineers Association], and Lawyer Khalil al-Hazza' spoke at the seminar.

Engineer Layth Shubaylat said: We are seeing a stunning unfolding of positions and events. This shows the official agencies' rush to reshape the character of Jordan and the Jordanians. We are seeing an official rush to normalization with the Zionists. We have seen the revocation of the economic boycott of the enemy through the capitulation treaty.

Shubaylat added: This is nothing new, but let us make our views clear by calling a spade a spade. We see this turnabout at a serious juncture, for there is a reversal of objectives and an unqualified espousal of Zionist rhetoric. It is being argued that the Jews are descendants of Abraham, just like us. The authorities are effecting an estrangement with other Arabs, and a rapprochement with the Jews, who have nothing to do with us. We are required to make our stands in this regard clear to all. The government is well aware that if the opposition remains reticent, it will have the opportunity to effect the changes required to reverse the nation's course, undermine its beliefs and cultural identity, and accept the enemy's dictates.

Shubaylat went on to say: Developments are unfolding at an amazing pace. Things are no longer tolerable. The

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Jordanians' failure to protest the plans to surrender the country's resources to the enemy amounts to abandonment of the homeland. By failing to express opposition to such plans, the Jordanians will be abandoning their territories, their country's independence, and their children's future. We have become guests in our own lands. We have become mere objects and property in a farmland that is being given away.

Engineer Layth Shubaylat reviewed what is taking place in the name of democracy, which is having hard times here. The benefits of the democratic process are not enjoyed by the public, which is not allowed to express its views in total freedom. Those who express their views freely run the risk of being persecuted or imprisoned. This is because the government has given assurance that its humiliation of the people is such that the latter's sentiments can be completely disregarded. [passage omitted]

British Secretary of State Malcolm Rifkind Visits

Calls U.S. Bill on Jerusalem 'Unwise'

JN1011080595 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Announcer-read report over video]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a visit to Jordan as part of a Middle East tour. [passage omitted]

Upon arrival in Amman, the British foreign secretary asserted that his country should strongly support the peace process, extend economic assistance to the Palestinians, and help oversee [Palestinian] elections scheduled for next January. He expressed Britain's readiness to extend all types of support. He reaffirmed the importance of international support for those who face the challenges of peace with courage.

On the British Government's position on the U.S. Congress bill to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, he said: We believe that the Congress bill is unwise, because the future of Jerusalem as a whole is a very sensitive issue that will be addressed in the third stage of the peace process. It is important for other countries not to take measures that would complicate things in this regard.

He said he was pleased the U.S. Government did not endorse the Congress bill on moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.

Discusses Peace, Ties With King

JN1011075895 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and his accompanying delegation at Raghadan Palace last night. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan.

Rifkind briefed His Majesty King Husayn on the objectives of his tour of the region — a tour pertinent to the peace process. He expressed his country's appreciation for his majesty's constant efforts to achieve the sought peace in the region. He stressed the United Kingdom's support for Jordan in all its endeavors to achieve peace and promote the development drive in the region so that its people can accomplish the aspired comprehensive progress from which they were deprived throughout the past decades.

The two sides emphasized the need to maintain the peace process momentum and overcome all obstacles impeding it in order to accomplish the peace that is sought by the people of the region. They also discussed bilateral relations, focusing on the need to upgrade them in the various fields.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin- Shakir; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Hashemite Royal Court; His Highness Prince Talal Bin-Muhammad, military secretary of his majesty the king; and Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti. On the British side, the meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying the guest minister and the British ambassador in Amman.

Says Syria Cautious, Supports Peace Process

JN1011132095 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, reaffirmed his country's firm support for the Middle East peace process, praising His Majesty King Husayn's courageous leadership and positions toward efforts to make peace in the region. This came in a news conference Rifkind held in Amman today at the conclusion of an official visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Regarding his visit to Syria and the talks he held with Syrian officials, particularly as regard the peace process, he said: The Syrians are cautious and assert their support for the peace process. This was confirmed by President al-Asad. It seems they believe that the latest statements coming from Israel are positive and encouraging. This

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

constitutes an appropriate groundwork to resume the serious negations between the two parties.

On the impact Yitzhaq Rabin's assassination will have on the peace process, he noted: It was emphasized in my talks with the Israeli officials that Rabin's assassination should not affect the peace process. This opinion is shared by all in the region. Therefore, there is a chance to strengthen and entrench the peace process. This depends on all parties.

Regarding lifting sanctions against Iraq, he said: I do not think that it is possible for the sanctions to be lifted at this stage. Lifting sanctions depends on Iraq's full compliance with UN resolutions.

Answering a question on whether Britain sees a political role for Husayn Kamil in Iraq, he said: We believe that it is up to the Iraqi people to decide their political future.

Ends Visit, Holds News Conference

JN1011114495 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, has reiterated his country's firm support for the Middle East peace process, praising His Majesty King Husayn's courageous leadership and stands vis-a-vis the efforts aimed at achieving peace in the region. This came at a news conference Rifkind held at the residence of the British ambassador in Amman today at the end of his official visit to the kingdom.

Rifkind reaffirmed the importance of continuing efforts to achieve and entrench peace in the region, as well as to solve the unresolved issues within the framework of the peace process. The objective, he added, is to achieve permanent peace and stability to realize the aspirations of the people in the region for a future in which prosperity and progress will prevail.

Regarding his meeting last night with His Majesty King Husayn, Rifkind said: His majesty briefed me on the Jordanian viewpoint vis-a-vis the horizons of progress and development in the region provided by the positive atmosphere of peace. He said that Jordan plays a leading and important role in this regard, particularly with regard to turning this peace into a tangible reality.

The British secretary noted that he discussed with His Majesty King Husayn the situation in Iraq, the distinguished Jordanian- British relations, and the economic and trade ties between Jordan and Europe, in general, in addition to Jordan's participation in the coming Barcelona economic conference.

Further on News Conference

JN1011182095 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Report on news conference by British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind with unidentified correspondents in Amman on 10 November — recorded passage in English]

[FBIS Translated Text] British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, who arrived in Amman last night on a visit to Jordan as part of a tour of the Middle East aimed at affirming Britain's support for the peace process, held a news conference this morning. Rifkind stressed Britain's support for the peace process during the news conference. He also explained his country's viewpoint on a number of issues related to the region.

[Begin recording] [Rifkind] The main purpose of the British Government is to give its unequivocal support to the peace process. We salute the courageous leadership that His Majesty King Husayn and other leaders in this region have given to that process. It has made very historic progress in recent times, but there is still some way to go. However, it is important to build on that momentum to address the remaining issues and to look forward to the final peace and stability that will bring enormous economic and social benefits to the whole region. And over to you.

[Correspondent] Could you brief us on your talks last night with his majesty the king?

[Rifkind] Yes. It was very interesting to hear from his majesty the Jordanian view with regard to the prospects for the development of stability in the region. Jordan has taken a very leading role and I believe has set an example as to how peace can become a reality and how it can be given substance.

We discussed not only the peace process, but also the situation in Iraq and Iran—the extent to which both these countries can pose threats to the stability of the region. We also obviously looked at bilateral British-Jordanian relations, which are in an extremely healthy state. There was discussion on the economic links, trading links between Jordan and Europe as a whole and Jordan's participation in the Barcelona summit, which is due to take place in the near future.

[Correspondent] You have said during your visit after you visited Damascus and also here in Amman that you believe there could be slow progress towards some sort of agreement between Syria and Israel. Could you tell us, did you hear any .... [interruption in video]

[Rifkind, in progress] .... generation of distrust and mutual suspicion between Syria and Israel, so one is

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

not surprised that progress is very slow. The Syrians clearly are anxious to emphasize that they support the peace process. This is what President al-Asad said in unequivocal terms. They appear to believe that recent statements from Israel are positive, are encouraging. If that is their view and as it is clearly the Israeli view also that they would like to take forward the peace process with Syria, then that provides a proper base for serious negotiations to recommence. It clearly is going to require a first step towards that resumption. And I have no doubt both the Israeli and the Syrian Governments will be giving serious consideration at this moment in time as to whether and how to seek to relaunch that initiative.

[Correspondent] Could you please give us some further details about the discussions on Iraq last night with King Husayn. Any ideas, any identical viewpoints?

[Rifkind] There is a very strong harmony of view that sadly, Iraq, and Saddam Husayn's regime in particular, continue to represent a threat to the peace of the region. There was, I believe, a great sense of shock throughout the Middle East and throughout the world that the eventual admission from Baghdad that they had been developing biological weapons, that they had been processing the use of anthrax as a military weapons, which could destroy millions of people. [sentence as heard] That was an admission that came out in the aftermath of the defection of Husayn Kamil and of course was quite contrary to the assurances that the Iraqi Government had been giving the United Nations for some considerable time before that.

Against that background, it is, I believe, inconceivable that the sanctions at this moment in time could be lifted by the United Nations. There is inevitably as suspicion that if Iraq is now admitting biological weapons, what else does it have that it is not yet admitting? And clearly it is necessary for the international community to maintain the pressure on Iraq until it fully complies with the United Nations resolutions.

[Correspondent] DO you think that the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin will change the pace of the peace process, now that the Israelis concentrate on their interior politics?

[Rifkind] I believe there is, from my talks with Mr. Peres and other Israelis, that there is a deep determination to ensure that Mr. Rabin did not die in vain. I believe that that is also the view of His Majesty King Husayn, of Chairman 'Arafat, and of others who are committed to the peace process. That means, I believe, there is an opportunity for strengthening and deepening of the peace process, but that will depend on others as well, and we have to see whether there is a comprehensive response to the opportunity that now presents itself.

[Correspondent] Mr. Rifkind. How much of a serious threat do you see Jewish settler extremism in Israel?

[Rifkind] I think that the Israeli Government and the Israeli people now accept that within Israel's sad day, there are fanatics, there are extremists, just as there are in Arab countries. And therefore, it is necessary for the political process to recognize that fanaticism and terrorism have to be extirpated in whichever country it is to be found and from whichever community it emanates. There might, perhaps, have been a reluctance in the past in Israel to acknowledge that it did have this virus within their own society. But the events of last week, I am sure, would sadly and tragically have brought home to the people concerned. [end recording]

Iraqi Minister Reportedly on Unannounced Visit

MM1311120595 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 13 Nov 95 pp 1, 6

[Report by Salamh Ni'mat: "Iraqi Oil Minister Unexpectedly in Amman"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman — Informed Jordanian sources said yesterday that Iraqi Oil Minister Major General 'Amir Rashid, who is assigned to run the Military Industrialization Organization, held talks in Amman yesterday with a high-ranking Jordanian official. The talks have not been officially announced.

The sources pointed out that 'Amir Rashid's visit is the second to Jordan by an Iraqi official. The Jordanian Government has not announced either. Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi-al-Din Ma'ruf visited Amman last month. He met with Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir. The visit and the meeting — which was the first of its kind since General Husayn Kamil defected to Jordan in August with his brother Colonel Saddam Kamil and their wives, daughters of the Iraqi president — were not announced.

The sources could not specify the reason for the failure of the Jordanian Government and the Iraqi Government to announce the two visits.

'Amir Rashid's visit and talks in Amman took place after the recent Iraqi media escalation against the kingdom in the wake of King Husayn's call for the establishment of a federal system in Iraq comprised of the Sunnah, the Shi'ah, and the Kurds to replace the current regime and guarantee Iraq's territorial integrity and stability.

The Iraqi press attacked Jordan last week without directly singling out King Husayn's statements, saying

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

that Jordan's call to establish a federal system reflects its willingness to become "a tool in the hands of Zionism and imperialism" — a reference to the United States and Israel.

FRC Says Intelligence Service Arrested Members

NC0911185595 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 3 Nov 95 p 6

[FBIS Translated Text] Fatah—the Revolutionary Council [FRC] [led by Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu-Nidal] has accused the Jordanian intelligence service of arresting "scores of struggling members and supporters of the pan-Arab and Islamic forces in Jordan."

The FRC official spokesman has stated that among the detainees are three FRC members. They are 'Abbas al-Qaysi, Ibrahim Sa'dah, and Bassam Khalafah. The spokesman warned the Jordanian regime and intelligence services of the "consequences of embarking on any action that may endanger the lives of the comrades."

Family Squabble Behind Airline Bomb Hoax

JN1111103295 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 95 p 12

[Report by Lima Nabil "Special to the JORDAN TIMES"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman—A Royal Jordanian [RJ] airliner made an emergency landing on Thursday at Iceland's Keflavik airport after receiving a bomb threat and proceeded to Chicago after a search found no bomb aboard the plane.

The Lockheed Tristar was en route from Amsterdam to Chicago with 324 passengers on board when the bomb hoax was made. More than 200 rescue workers were at Keflavik airport when the plane landed at 18.25 GMT.

The passengers were evacuated immediately and taken to the airport terminal. Bomb disposal experts searched the plane, but no suspicious objects were found.

Asked to comment on the incident, RJ's Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Public Relations Munib Tuqan said the investigation found that an American woman of Jordanian origin who wanted to delay the arrival of her mother-in-law in Chicago gave the false information.

The woman who gave her name and phone number said that her mother-in-law was carrying a bomb, Mr. Tuqan said. Subsequently the woman apologised to the U.S. police saying that she ignored international laws on aviation and added that she did not think that the false information would be taken seriously.

She also said that she did not know the extent of suffering and financial losses incurred as a result of the false information, Mr. Tuqan said.

In a telephone interview, one of the passengers, Munir Fakhuri, said significant number of the passengers were children and that no one was hurt during the emergency landing at Keflavik. Mr. Fakhuri praised the Icelandic authorities for the good treatment they offered to the passengers at Keflavik airport.

International news agencies Thursday said the Icelandic authorities detained one man and two women for questioning.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Hizballah Snubs Remarks by Dennis Ross

NC1311114395 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Commenting on a statement by Dennis Ross, the U.S. coordinator of the settlement process in the Middle East, a responsible Hizballah source has made the following statement: First, Ross' statement on the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin was full of lies, accusations, and instigation against Hizballah and our Lebanese people's courageous resistance. This flagrant incitement by the U.S. Administration is in line with its hostile stance against all sincere parties in the Arab and Islamic region, who still resist the joint U.S.-Israeli hegemonistic plans. They use the settlement negotiations to impose their will and political, economic, and security domination of our region and peoples. Hizballah takes pride in standing in the forefront of the active forces that defend our nation's dignity and existence and confront this fierce and arrogant onslaught.

Second, We have always emphasized and emphasize anew that we in Hizballah, with our firm stance, true Resistance, and role of expressing our people's and nation's will are not for the peace that perpetuates occupation, robs people's rights, legalizes usurpation, distorts history, expropriates land, and violates holy sanctities. This is the peace that is sponsored by the U.S. Administration, a peace based on injustice, despotism, and tyranny.

Third, the accusation of extremism leveled at Hizballah and the struggling noble Islamic forces in the region, is used for political consumption to serve U.S. interests and plans in the region. This accusation shows the extent of U.S. annoyance with the pioneering role played by the Islamic forces in confronting the hegemonistic plans and motivating the nation against the Zionist entity and its danger to the region and nation.

Alleged Mosad Collaborators Arrested in South

MM0911133095 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Nov 95 pp 1, 6

[Unattributed report: "Lebanon: Scores Arrested in South on Charges of Collaborating With Mosad"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beirut, AL-HAYAH — Lebanese political and security sources have disclosed to AL-HAYAH that the storming and arrest operations carried out by Hizballah and Lebanese security organs, especially those belonging to the Lebanese Army, in some areas in southern Lebanon has led to the uncovering of a large network which has links with Israeli intelligence and uses very advanced equipment in its contacts with Israeli officers and in listening secretly to some quarters.

The sources said that the arrest operations have been conducted in stages over the past three months, and that the number of people arrested is more than 70; their links with the Israeli intelligence service (Mosad) vary.

The sources said that the persons who have been proved to have dealt with Mosad sent information to Mosad through advanced radio equipment, using a cipher — which indicates that some of them had received thorough training in some aspects of their activities in order to become professional. The main aim was to send information about the resistance's movements and Hizballah in order to preempt potential operations against Israeli forces and the South Lebanese Army collaborating with them.

Sources close to Hizballah and security sources have said that interrogations have shown that the network's main elements operated from outside Lebanon. They were isolated by the Israeli intelligence services by several methods, including providing them with university scholarships or jobs, or through relationships with women. The sources said that these people, according to their confessions, were recruited in some African and Scandinavian states, Cyprus, Ankara, and some Western states.

While media services had said that one them was arrested in al-'Abbasiyah and that he used to spy from some houses in the city, using listening devices hidden in electric cables linked to the houses through a power generator, the sources stressed to AL-HAYAH that the person in question comes from Bin Jubayl and lived in al-'Abbasiyah, and that the other persons lived in southern villages adjacent to the occupied "border strip."

The sources stressed that the devices found on the network's elements are very advanced and effective, and the security services in Lebanon have never used any equipment that is as effective or sensitive. The sources said that some of the network's elements allocated the tasks, planted the devices in furniture, and coordinated with some furniture shops after asking about people who had bought or intended to buy furniture from them.

The sources pointed out that some of the network's elements are being held by the Army intelligence organ, and that the interrogation of the others was supervised by the Syrian security organ, because they are senior agents who received special training.

The sources disclosed that one of the factors that helped to uncover the network, apart from the efforts of the partisan security forces and the Lebanese and Syrian forces to detect Israeli movements in the liberated

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

areas, was the fact that some citizens who had been approached by elements from the network informed the resistance or the Army of those seeking to recruit them.

The sources pointed out that the success in uncovering the network has led to changes in the Israeli signal corps and the cipher used by some intelligence organs so that the other collaborators with Israel will not be uncovered.

Hizballah Official on Arrest of 'Spies'

NC1011082495 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Telephone interview with Hajj Husayn Khalil, chairman of Hizballah's Political Bureau, in Lebanon, by Mahdi Hasan, in Tehran; date not given; from the "News and Reports" program — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Hasan] Hajj Husayn Khalil, newspaper items have reported that the Islamic Resistance and the Lebanese Army have arrested dozens suspected of collaborating with the Zionist intelligence apparatus, Mosad, over the past three months. Could you please put us in the picture?

[Khalil] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you know, a precious part of our Lebanese homeland in the south and western al-Biqa' still suffers the yoke of Israeli occupation and Israeli assaults. We say it with pride that our brothers, the heroes of the Islamic Resistance, confront this occupation with successful daily operations. These operations have badly hurt the enemy and transformed the Zionist, colonialist, occupation army from an army formerly believed to be invincible into an army that is defeated daily. We all know the myth believed by many Arab rulers and officials was that Israel possessed an invincible military force. Our brothers in the Islamic Resistance, the sincere heroes who make sacrifices and are willing to be martyred, have defeated this army and destroyed its legendary image with their humble weapons. They possess a weapon stronger than the physical weapons the enemy possesses. This weapon is their faith in God and their conviction that victory will inevitably come to those who are wronged. They resist the enemy and teach him one lesson after another. As you know, this enemy has been using some militias, adventurers, and scoundrels as human shields. Antoine Lahd's mercenaries [South Lebanese Army, SLA] are used as human shields by the enemy. They protect the enemy's positions and barracks. The enemy uses them as substitutes for his vehicles and troops. You also know, of course, that the Islamic Resistance has taken the SLA to pieces and inflicted defeats on the mercenaries of the Jews and the Agent Antoine Lahd. The enemy and Antoine Lahd's army have some deviant scoundrels who have turned their backs on their homeland and religion. They collaborate with the enemy. To buttress the jihad carried out by the Islamic Resistance, our kin and brothers and the Lebanese Army are excising these spies from Lebanon and pulling out these vicious claws that are used by the enemy. They arrest them and dismantle all the rings the enemy uses in his attempt to carry out bombings and assassinations and sow sedition among Lebanese citizens. We can say that through the cooperation between us and the official Lebanese authorities, most notably the Lebanese Army recently, we have arrested many such spying groups: these snakes and foxes work by night, take orders from the enemy, and place bombs to kill civilians in our towns and villages. They also carry out espionage for the enemies of God, the homeland, and the nation. By coordinating efforts with the Lebanese authorities, we have arrested numerous groups of these people. In this way we have dismayed and frightened the enemy, which was already in a panic because of the crushing Resistance operations carried out by our brother mujahidin. The enemy now fears the ability of our people in the south and our brothers in the Islamic Resistance to expose the collaborators. The enemy has thus suffered two major blows, first, through the Resistance operations and, second, through the exposure of the spies who work for the Zionist enemy's security apparatus in south Lebanon and western al-Biqa'. This is what is happening in the south.

[Hasan] These two blows are doubtless a strong psychological shock to the Zionist enemy. Is that not so?

[Khalil] Doubtless the enemy is more confused now. He is embarrassed by the exposure of his military power as one that is not as great as people imagined, although he supplies his army with great technical, financial, and logistical resources, including sophisticated U.S. technology. His highly trained intelligence apparatus has, thank God, proved impotent against our Resistance fighters both in the military and the intelligence fields. If this proves anything it proves the strength and quality of solidarity between the people and the Resistance fighters.

[Hasan] Hajj Khalil, thank you.

[Khalil] You are welcome.

Government Urged To 'Prevent' Mosad Penetration

NC1[illegible]1112995 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has called on the government to strengthen the local arena against Zionist penetration so

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

that the Resistance can do its duty and liberate the land. His eminence said that official agencies, especially security, are required to prevent Mosad penetration. He stressed that the Resistance had uncovered numerous spying networks in recent months. Speaking at a ceremony in the al-Barjawi religious center in Beirut marking Martyrs Day, an event attended by many believers, he said that all enemy agencies and methods have failed; they will not stop the Islamic Resistance mujahidin. [passage omitted]

Britain's Rifkind Arrives on Official Visit

Buwayz Comments on Visit; Talks Held

NC1111181595 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The British foreign secretary arrived in Beirut from Cairo this afternoon aboard a private plane, leading a diplomatic and administrative delegation. He was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz and [British] Ambassador May Fay Forte.

Minister Buwayz praised Britain's stand on the Israeli occupation of the south and its insistence on implementing Resolution 425. He said:

[Begin Buwayz recording] Naturally, we welcome the British foreign secretary and his accompanying delegation. Of course this is not the first visit. We are accustomed to Britain being at the lead in dealing with Lebanon. I remember that immediately after the war, the first visit by a foreign official was that of the British assistant foreign secretary at that time.

We will hold talks on issues concerning the region, especially after the recent developments. We are, of course, likely to discuss issues concerning bilateral ties. It would be useful to say that Britain has a long-standing and historical role in this region. No doubt we have always experienced from Britain a clear and very frank stance on Israel's occupation of south Lebanon and insistence on the implementation of Resolution 425. [end recording]

The British foreign secretary said that the aim of his visit is to discuss what might be achieved on the Middle East peace process. He stressed his conviction that Lebanon is one of the parties concerned in this respect and that Lebanon is still suffering from the lack of regional peace.

He added that Britain must do what it can to help achieve this peace and reach an agreement realizing the foreign forces' withdrawal from Lebanon as soon as possible.

From the airport, Ministers Buwayz and Rifkind headed to the Foreign Ministry, where they held a 10-minute private meeting. Afterward, an expanded session of talks was held. Present on the Lebanese side were Milhim Mistu, director of Minister Buwayz' office; and advisers Farid 'Abbud, Ezabelle Iddih, and Ilyas Haddad.

[British] Ambassador May Fay Geraldine Forte; Assistant Foreign Secretary Andrew Green; and William Eham, director of the minister's office, and other aides attended the talks on the British side.

After the talks, the two ministers held a news conference. Buwayz said he explained to the British secretary Lebanon's stand beginning with the Madrid talks, the Washington talks, and ending with the current situation in the south and recurring Israeli attacks. He said Britain's stand in support of implementing Resolution 425 is positive in Lebanon's view. He added that talks will continue on agreements to guarantee investments and avoid dual taxation.

Buwayz said a phase now exists to absorb repercussions of the recent events and noted a determination by everyone to readvance the peace process and the negotiations in general.

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind emphasized that Syria and Lebanon are the key to closing the crisis. He said that Yitzhaq Rabin's assassination has not terminated the peace process but pushed it toward continuation.

Describing his talks with the Syrian president as positive, he noted a Syrian intention to continue the peace process. Rifkind also mentioned the Barcelona conference, which will create an important change by helping the region's economy. He added that he is eager to see Lebanon participate in that conference.

Later, Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri received Secretary Rifkind at the Government Palace in the presence of Minister Buwayz and Ambassador Forte.

After the visit, Rifkind said: We discussed with Prime Minister al-Hariri several topics dealing with the important progress in the economy, with construction, and in the restoration of unity and cohesion among Lebanese. We also discussed the peace talks and we briefed Prime Minister al-Hariri on the British Government's view of the peace process and advancing it with a new impetus, especially on the Syrian-Israeli track. This will help make progress on the Lebanese-Israeli track, toward achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The British foreign secretary is now visiting Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri in 'Ayn al-Tinah. He

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

is scheduled to call on President Ilyas al-Hirawi at the B'abda Palace tonight.

After that, Minister Buwayz will host a dinner for his British counterpart, who will leave Beirut at 2300.

Rifkind Ends Visit, Departs

NC1111193395 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind and his accompanying delegation left Beirut this evening following a lightning visit to Lebanon. During the visit, the British foreign secretary met with President Ilyas al-Hirawi, Chamber Speaker Nabih Birri, and Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister's Talks in Damascus Reported

NC1311065695 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri visited Damascus yesterday afternoon and met Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam for dinner. He conferred with other Syrian officials on current local and regional developments. He returned that night and called on Speaker Birri and President al-Hirawi and briefed them on his talks with the Syrian officials. Al-Hariri's talks in Damascus focused on the regional situation in light of the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin.

Foreign Minister Buwayz will visit Damascus today for talks with his Syrian counterpart, Faruq al-Shar', on the repercussions of Rabin's assassination and the results of the British foreign secretary's visits to Damascus and Beirut.

Celebration on Rabin Death Said To Show Weak Government

NC0911140095 Beirut AL-ANWAR in Arabic 7 Nov 95 p 4

[From the "Inspired by Events" column by Fu'ad Da'bul: "Rabin Fell, and So the State"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Yitzhaq Rabin fell because he chose "the peace of the weak" and escaped from "the peace of the brave."

Politically exhausted by his own fear, Rabin fell prey to assassination.

Had he met the brave, peace would have been faster than the racist fanatics, and the "peace of the brave" would have safely reached the shore.

And our government fell in the reaction to the assassination, and along with it, the "logic of the state" and the state itself. [passage omitted]

This government is "asleep" in the face of the strong, and strong in the face of the weak and those who are not "supported" by the "strong!"

And so, the government took lightly the "celebrators" of Rabin's assassination, although at the hands of others. They took to the streets, heavily armed, adorned by Kalashnikovs, firing in jubilation.

Had these people felt that the state existed, they would have demonstrated unarmed, and felt content with expressions of rejection and distribution of delights.

They went out "because there is no one" [to stop them], and because there is no state to challenge them, or to "annoy" them, even with "a perfume spray."

Has anyone in this state felt "embarrassed" seeing armed men proudly roaming the streets?

They told the people that the weapons had been collected.

They said that the weapon of resistance is in the south, where the battlefield with the enemy lies. They said that no one, from now on, would feel stronger than the state in the name of resistance outside the positions of resistance.

Did the officials feel ashamed from the people when they saw a jungle of weapons spreading in seconds?

This means that the war can renew and can break out in seconds, and it means that the achievements of "the second republic" are nonsense, a mirage.

Is it not a national catastrophe that the state and Yitzhaq Rabin were assassinated at the same moment?

The mere similarity and analogy defies logic. What if this really happened?

'Violent' Israeli Bombardment in South Reported

NC1111064895 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Israeli occupation forces have stepped up their attacks against the al-Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah regions. [passage omitted] The attacks began at 2205 yesterday when the Iqlim al-Tuffah region came under intermittent shelling that targeted al-Luwayzah and Mlikh. At 2330, the occupation Israeli forces expanded the scope of their attacks on Iqlim al-Tuffah, shelling al-Jabal al-Rafi', al-Wadi al-Akhdar, Habbush, 'Arab Salim, Mazra'at 'Aqmata, Sujud, and

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

al-Rayhan. [passage omitted] Meanwhile, Israeli helicopters intensified their low-level flights over Iqlim al-Tuffah, raking the area with heavy machine gun fire at 0315 today. [passage omitted]

Kafr Tibnit, al-Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, the empty army barracks in al-Nabatiyah, Mazra'at al-Hamra', Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, and Zawtar al-Gharbiyah came under violent artillery bombardment. [passage omitted]

The violent Israeli bombardment of Iqlim al-Tuffah is continuing. Thuds of heavy artillery are heard in al-Nabatiyah and nearby villages. [passage omitted] Arrivals from Iqlim al-Tuffah say the Israeli bombardment has not stopped. Shells are falling at the rate of two to three shells every minute. These attacks are the most violent since the July 1993 war [Operation Accountability].

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Qaddur: Israel Wants Peace, Land Together

JN1011081395 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0515 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, is struggling to achieve a just, comprehensive, and honorable peace. This peace must restore Arab land and rights in full, without infringing on dignity or on an iota of the homeland's soil.

The minister made the remarks at a lecture he gave at the conclusion of a political rally held by the Palestine Liberation Army on the silver jubilee of the glorious Corrective Movement. Qaddur expressed hope that the Arab nation will be able to overcome the difficulties and ordeals it is experiencing, thanks to the wise and courageous leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad.

The minister said Israel wants land and peace together and is creating obstacles to the peace process to prevent the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace, based on the resolutions of international legitimacy, specifically Resolution 338 and 425.

In his lecture, Qaddur reviewed the stages of the Zionist conflict and the numerous resolutions adopted by the United Nations. These resolutions call for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, condemn Israel's occupation of Arab land, and call for giving the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

The minister reviewed the current international changes in the wake of the collapse of the former Soviet Union and the emergence of a unipolar policy. He also criticized the use of double standards in international politics.

Khaddam Criticizes Arabs for 'Rushing' to Israel

NC1011091995 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 1 Nov 95 pp 1, 13

[Report by 'Ali Jamalu in Damascus]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the first Syrian response to the Middle East-North Africa Economic Conference in Amman, Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam has warned against the dangers of the Arabs rushing toward Israel when it still occupies the land and usurps rights.

In a speech to a high-level meeting of Arab Socialist Ba'th Party officials, ministers, governors, heads of popular organizations, trade union leaders, university presidents, and media representatives, Khaddam said: "The Amman conference has failed, in that the Gulf states and the EU have refused to finance the Development Bank. But it has achieved the U.S. and Israeli objectives of consolidating Israel's official presence in the region and of peddling normalization through businessmen."

Explaining Syria's boycott of the Casablanca and Amman conferences and its consent to attend the Barcelona conference, Khaddam said the Casablanca and Amman conferences have consolidated Israel's presence in the region "while the Barcelona conference will discuss cooperation between Europe and the Mediterranean countries and the rejuvenation of Europe's world role." He added that "Europe's rejection of the Middle East Development Bank is a political move after the Europeans realized that they will be the party doing the funding and the Americans the payees. The Europeans want more favorable treatment than the Americans. They want to cooperate with the Arab countries on the basis that Europe's interests conflict with those of the United States. We have an interest in encouraging this conflict of interests, hence our participation in the Barcelona conference."

Reviewing the Arab situation, Khaddam warned against the current Arab disarray and the lack of commitment to the limits required by pan-Arab interests. He dealt with developments in the peace process and the talks on the Syrian-Israeli track, referring in this regard to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's recent mediation designed to promote progress on this track.

Khaddam asserted that there is a difference between the Syrian and Israeli concepts of peace. He indicated that Syria wants peace on the basis of the UN resolutions while Israel wants to perpetuate its occupation and expansion.

Khaddam spoke about the Palestinian people's disappointment with the serious concessions made by some Palestinian leaders, concessions that have brought Israel big gains at the expense of the Palestinian people's rights. He also dealt with the Jordanian-Israeli agreement and its dangers for the whole Arab region. He referred to Jordan's intentions toward Iraq, which include the partitioning of Iraq into ministates and the restoration of the Hashemite throne to enable Israel, through its agreement with Amman, to infiltrate Iran, Pakistan, and the Arabian Peninsula.

Khaddam referred to Syria's commitment to the peace process and this process' objective requirements, which are the UN and Security Council resolutions and Israel's full withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 borders and its withdrawal from all occupied Lebanese territory.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Defense Minister: Peace 'Strategic Option'

JN1211175595 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, a celebration was held at the Girls Military College today to commemorate the graduation of a new class of the college's students. Lieutenant General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, deputized for the president in patronizing this celebration. [passage omitted]

Lt. Gen. Mustafa Talas, the representative of the commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, delivered a speech conveying leader al-Asad's greetings and wishes of success to the female graduates in their military life and in executing their national and pan-Arab tasks which will be assigned to them within the ranks of our Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

Speaking about the peace process in the region, Lt. Gen. Talas said: Israel continues to obstruct the peace process and to ignore the land-for-peace formula and all the resolutions of the United Nations and international legitimacy.

Lt. Gen. Talas added: We, in Syria, have always followed and still follow the steps of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. We have always said that we advocate peace, for peace is a strategic option. We will spare no effort to achieve a just and comprehensive solution for the region. However, this necessitates that Israel heed the resolutions of international legitimacy which do not allow any form of occupation.

In his speech, Lt. Gen. Talas spoke about the early warning stations which Israel calls for in the Golan, stressing that this issue is rejected because it flagrantly encroaches on our national sovereignty and undermines our national dignity. This was emphasized by leader al-Asad in a recent statement to the newspaper AL-AHRAM when he said: If they are thinking of early warning stations on the ground, the issue is out of the question because we do not want to get rid of occupation to have another occupation. We do not want any symbol of occupation to remain on our land. [passage omitted]

Radio: Beilin Misinterpreted al-Shar's 'Arab Proverb'

JN0911165595 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] During his meeting with British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, President Hafiz al-Asad noted that realizing peace is not impossible if there is a true and serious desire to do so by parties concerned. Those in international political departments as well as observers of all trends are well aware that Syria spared no effort to provide all the requirements for the success and advancement of the peace process, first by agreeing to the U.S. initiative, by attending the Madrid conference, and by putting forth every effort to move forward with the peace process on the basis of respect for international legitimacy and the land-for-peace principle, from which the U.S. initiative originated in the first place.

Therefore Israel was always called upon to provide serious evidence of its desire to advance and sustain the peace process. Today, now that four years have passed since the peace process first began, Syria renews its commitment to peace as a strategic option that has international legitimacy as a basis, and whose substance is justice and comprehensiveness. This was evident in the statements that followed the talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and the British foreign secretary, as well as in the joint news conference held by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and his British counterpart Malcolm Rifkind. At the news conference, Rifkind stressed that there is a historic opportunity to achieve progress in the peace process. He voiced appreciation for the role of Syria and that of President Hafiz al-Asad in the region in general, and in this process in particular. He also said that he was convinced that Syria wants peace.

For his part, Mr. al-Shar' asserted that Syria is still committed to the peace process, that it adheres to achieving just and comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy, UN resolutions, and the land-for-peace principle. He said he hoped that now, after the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Israelis will realize that peace is in their own interest, as well as everyone else's, because it is the basis for eliminating extremism and uprooting violence. In other word: Something good might come out of something bad, as the Arab proverb says. Israeli Economy Minister Yosi Beilin misinterpreted this proverb, which was cited by Foreign Minister al-Shar'. The harmful thing that the foreign minister meant is the result of the assassination, which may lead to something useful; namely, exposing the extremists and expediting the realization of a just

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

peace in the region. Containing this harm can be done by a serious action, which was announced by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres; namely, all that Israel has to do to proceed with the peace process.

Therefore, Rabin's assassination may help accelerate a just and comprehensive peace process in a manner that would benefit all the states of the region. It is strange that such rigid statements, as well as previous ones, should come from Beilin, who is supposed to be one of the doves, as he is classified by Israeli policy observers. Despite Syria's eagerness to promote U.S., European, and international peace efforts, we are shocked every now and then by statements from Beilin and others that do not advance the peace process. They are not in line with the objectives and essence of peace. Syria has stated on all occasions that the peace it seeks must be based on justice, so that it can be sustainable and perpetual, and so that the peoples of the region will be persuaded to protect and entrench it.

Press Views al-Asad's Remarks on Peace Stance

JN1011103795 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0550 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] In its commentary today, AL-BA'TH underscores President Hafiz al-Asad's reassertion during his meeting with the British foreign secretary that achieving peace is not impossible. The president, however, linked this to a true and serious desire and determination by the parties concerned.

The paper says this shows that Syria is concerned about peace and has a true desire and determination to achieve this goal. Syria has responded very seriously to the international efforts and offered a great deal to make the peace process succeed.

AL-BA'TH adds: Syria has repeatedly said that peace is its strategic option and that its acceptance of the U.S. peace initiative was within this context. Had it not been for Syria's response to the U.S. initiative, the Madrid conference would not have convened in the first place. This conference was held on the basis of a clear formula which depends on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the land-for-peace principle. Israel was forced to attend the Madrid conference for well-known international reasons. Israel was not happy about this approach, so it tried, since the first moments, to foil the Madrid conference and destroy its formula. Consequently, we saw infiltrations in the first and second Oslo agreements and the Wadi al-'Arabah treaty.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Israel miscalculated regarding the Syrian track. Syria will never accept anything short of full withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 lines. This is a major precondition for a just peace. This is in addition to withdrawal from the occupied part of southern Lebanon.

In one of its commentaries, AL-THAWRAH says: President Hafiz al-Asad has asserted that achieving peace is not impossible if there is a true and serious desire and determination on the part of the parties concerned. This takes us back to the reality of the obstacle which rendered the peace process dormant on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. Israel has not shown a true desire to look for peace, nor has it shown the required seriousness to advance it. No one has felt that Israel is determined to achieve peace.

AL-THAWRAH adds: Syria demonstrated its determination to make the intensive peace efforts achieve a just and comprehensive peace. In return, Israel has not shown such determination. It tried later to show that it is content with the partial, unequal agreements that were reached. These agreements do not make peace, nor achieve stability in the region.

The paper adds: Syria offered many facilities at different stages to maintain the momentum of the peace process. In return, Israel created obstacles and laid mines on the path of peace by evading the requirements for peace. Israel's intransigent policy was accompanied by a disinformation campaign that is aimed at misleading people, maneuvering, and spreading an atmosphere of false optimism that peace has been achieved. What was achieved, however, is nothing more than fragile agreements that cannot withstand developments and surprises in the region.

AL-THAWRAH concludes that there can be no peace with occupation. Full withdrawal is the key to progress to implement the formula of full peace for full withdrawal.

In another commentary, AL-THAWRAH says: Syria has been clear from the very beginning in its steps and policies toward real peace. A just and comprehensive peace must be based on the resolutions of international legitimacy; namely, full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, especially the Golan and southern Lebanon. Syria has spared no effort to make this peace materialize.

AL-THAWRAH says Syria called for peace at a very early stage and offered everything possible to achieve it on its well-known foundations. On the other hand, Israel has not shown such a desire. The Israeli position obstructed progress in the peace process. Therefore, achieving peace requires that Israel be clear in its policy toward it and that Israel commit itself to implementing it on the principles on which the Madrid peace process

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

was launched. These principles are the UN resolutions and the land-for-peace principle.

The paper adds that during the Madrid conference and in the peace talks, Israel insisted on its occupation and demonstrated that it is not serious. The Israeli position during the 13 rounds of talks was largely characterized by maneuvering, procrastination, and disinformation.

The paper concludes: We in Syria are for peace as prescribed by the resolutions of international legitimacy and the U.S. initiative. We will never do anything that contradicts our beliefs or national interests.

Paper Blames Arab 'Weakness' for Israel's Intransigence

JN1011111095 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Damascus, 10 Nov (SANA) — The newspaper AL-BA'TH says: President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated — during his meeting with Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, on 8 November — that the attainment of peace is not impossible. He said this is contingent on the real desire, seriousness, and determination on the part of the parties concerned. All of this means that Syria has a genuine desire and determination to realize peace. It also means that Syria is working with unqualified seriousness to achieve this sublime goal.

In its editorial today, the newspaper says the weakness of the Arab position, lack of coordination among the Arab parties directly concerned with the conflict, and the insistence of some on the policy of evasion and abandoning the principles and foundations of the peace process encourage Israel to adopt intransigent stands rejecting all that is related to the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region. [passage omitted]

Motive Behind Rabin Assassination Viewed

JN1111092495 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 11 Nov 95

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] In a commentary entitled "Peace is not Impossible," AL-THAWRAH says: Leader Hafiz al-Asad has very precisely and objectively specified the means to achieve the just and comprehensive peace. He stressed to the British foreign secretary that it is not impossible to arrive at peace, provided that the parties concerned display a genuine and serious desire and determination.

AL-THAWRAH adds: Facts available to observers of the situation in the region show that the conviction is growing among those who are concerned about the future of the region — particularly after they visit it and see the disappointments resulting from the lame agreements, such as Oslo and other agreements — that peace cannot be achieved unless it is just and comprehensive and involves all parties to the conflict, particularly Syria, without which, everyone agrees, there can be no peace.

In another commentary, AL-THAWRAH says Syria sticks to the peace process and is determined to achieve a just and comprehensive peace based on the international legitimacy, UN resolutions, and land-for-peace formula.

The paper says: This has been Syria's position since it spoke about peace in the Madrid Conference. Israel, however, has never been serious, at any time in the peace talks, about achieving tangible progress in the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, despite the importance of these two tracks to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region. One can even say that Israel has intensified its aggressiveness against Lebanon and Syria. It is launching an open war against Lebanon ....[break in reception] ...and the requirements of peace on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, especially as regards the complete withdrawal, enabled the leaders of the extreme Right to mobilize forces, organize underground armed groups, and promote a climate of fanaticism, racism, and rancor, to which Rabin fell victim. Should such a climate continue, it will ruin the entire peace process and return the region to the situation that prevailed before the Madrid conference; that is, to conflicts and wars.

TISHRIN adds: The entire world, and all analysts and observers, agree that the only way to confront the growing Zionist extremism is to show courage and determination to achieve peace and fulfill its requirements on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. When it abides by the resolutions of international legitimacy and pledges to make a complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon, Israel will be removing the obstacles which have thus far prevented the achievement of a genuine, comprehensive, and firm peace, which can provide security to all parties and establish real stability in the region.

TISHRIN adds: International quarters, particularly those concerned about the peace process in the Middle East, are expecting a gesture from Israel that will help resume the frozen talks on the Syrian track, especially after it was established that the Israeli Right is involved in the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in an effort to undermine the peace process and return the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

region to the whirlpool of tension, wars, and bloody conflicts.

TISHRIN discusses the satisfaction voiced by the international quarters of Syria's readiness to resume the peace talks and its genuine call to exert serious efforts to compensate for the time lost and achieve tangible and quick progress.

TISHRIN concludes: Syria has no condition to achieve peace other than the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy, the termination of occupation, and the return of the Golan Heights. Everybody knows that the Golan Heights have been Syrian territory throughout history and that the UN Security Council resolutions, which were the basis for the U.S. initiative and the Madrid conference, stipulate the inadmissibility of the acquisition of others' territory by force and complete Israeli withdrawal.

NPF: Country Determined To Continue Peace Process

JN1111192895 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 Nov 95

[Announcer-read report over video]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Central Command of the National Progressive Front [NPF] held a meeting at 1800 today. The meeting was chaired by Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president of the republic and NPF deputy chairman.

The command listened to a political report by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' on the current political situation. The command also reviewed the latest Arab, regional, and international developments, particularly the peace process. The command said Syria is determined to continue the peace process seriously. The command said that if the Israeli Government has determination and seriousness, then the peace process could witness positive developments that would allow it to achieve its goals; namely, the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace that restores land, rights, and security for all. This peace must be based on the principles of international legitimacy and the UN resolutions, which stipulate withdrawal from the Golan to the 4 June 1967 lines and implementing Resolution 425 on withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

The Central Command also discussed the silver jubilee of the glorious Corrective Movement, led by President Hafiz al-Asad. The command said that the achievements made over the past 25 years in all spheres are historic accomplishments that made Syria an active and effective power in the region and the world. These achievements also enhanced Syria's status and attracted the Arab masses that seek to safeguard their destiny against all threats and to build a prosperous future.

The command said that the achievements made over that period of our history embody our national and pan-Arab will and achieve all the higher values of the Arab nation.

The Central Command of the NPF saluted President al-Asad on the silver jubilee of the glorious Corrective Movement, noting that al-Asad led the movement very efficiently. Al-Asad's historic leadership is the best expression of the ambitions of our people and nation and our free will. The Central Command extended to the president its warm greetings on this occasion, wishing him further success in his struggle to achieve the higher national and pan-Arab objectives.

The masses of our people in the governorates continue their celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Corrective Movement, led by President Hafiz al-Asad. The masses held rallies, art exhibitions, and other cultural activities to express their extreme joy over this cherished occasion.

Press Stresses Commitment to Peace Efforts

JN1211092395 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 12 Nov 95

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] Under the headline "Millions of Arabs Are With al-Asad's Syria," AL-BA'TH says: For a quarter of a century, Syria has been the Arab bastion defending Arab rights, building at home and confronting foreign pressures. Thus, Syria has attained a respectable standing and an effective role regionally and internationally. Syria will continue to play its vanguard role and will not become subject to economic blocs or political decisions that do not serve the pan-Arab interests. Syria's will is free and expresses the conscience of a nation that has the right to live free from hegemony, exploitation, or control.

In this context, AL-BA'TH says: Under the historic leadership of the people's faithful son, struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria is today proudly working for a just peace that restores the legitimate Arab rights. Syria rejects any peace containing any new terms, such as Middle Easternism, which aims to spread Israeli hegemony over all Arabs.

AL-BA'TH highly appreciates the Syrian stand. It says: Approaching the jubilee of the blessed Corrective Movement, Syria stands side by side with the masses of the Arab nation, stronger and more resolved, looking forward to a bright, glorious future being made by

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the great Arab leader, Hafiz al-Asad, together with the millions of Arabs who expressed absolute confidence in Syria's vanguard course and wise leadership.

TISHRIN comments on Washington's assertions that the U.S. Administration is committed to the peace process and to exerting efforts to resume the stalled talks on the Syrian track. U.S. quarters did not rule out a visit to the region by Dennis Ross to explore stands and opinions with a view to narrowing the gap between Syria and Israel. The paper notes that political quarters in the United States and other states concerned about the peace process are worried about the escalating extremism in Israel, a trend which led to the killing of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

TISHRIN indicates that the Zionist extremists did not conceal their resolve to ruin the peace process undermine the U.S. initiative. It continues: Therefore, the world leaders and politicians have unanimously stated that the natural response to the racists extremists is to press ahead with the peace process and to achieve tangible achievements on the ground. They made it clear that the best way to do that is to resume the talks on the Syrian track to reach a fair agreement followed by another agreement with Lebanon, given that the Syrian and Lebanese tracks are inseparable. The paper says that what has encouraged the world leaders to express this view is Syria's stand, which puts no condition on achieving peace other than the full restoration of the territory in accordance with the essence of the U.S. initiative calling for trading land for peace and the UN resolutions.

TISHRIN says that international political quarters have praised Syria's flexible and serious stands which created a great deal of optimism. They hoped that Israel would respond in kind so that it would be possible to resume the stalled talks and give a strong boost to the peace efforts.

Concluding, the paper says that Syria seeks a just, comprehensive peace that restores the territory, removes the occupation, and firmly establishes the authority of international law and UN principles.

Corrective Movement Silver Jubilee Celebrations End

Al-Asad Addresses Working Class

JN1011164895 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Damascus, 10 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad addressed a message of greetings to the working class at the conclusion of the production contests week and the voluntary national working day which was executed by the workers in celebration of the silver jubilee of the blessed Corrective Movement. The following is the text of the message:

Brothers and sons, sisters and daughters in the working class:

Amid our great people's celebrations of the silver jubilee of the blessed Corrective Movement, your contribution to these celebrations has given, as is your custom, the sincerest expression of loyalty, faithfulness, and the militant spirit that characterized the sons of the working class in Syria throughout its history.

Since the dawn of the Correction Movement and the 8 March Revolution, the sons of the working class have played a prominent role in Syria's life. It is an extension of their militant role in the various stages of our modern history, which they continue to play out of love for the homeland and faith in the national and pan-Arab values.

The most important characteristic of the working class under the March revolution is the entrenchment of this faith and the many gains made by the working class, which were increased and reinforced under the Corrective Movement. These gains represent the fruit of the long struggle under the banner of our great party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, which paid great attention to the popular organizations and trade unions, reinforced their status, and entrenched their role in the life of the homeland.

Brothers and sons, sisters and daughters: You have consistently observed weeks of production contests and national voluntary working days. You have done so year after year on the Corrective Movement anniversaries in appreciation of the intimate link between your masses and the Corrective Movement. You have proved your concern to increase and improve production and support the national economy. By word and deed, you have turned the self-reliance slogan into reality, benefiting from the homeland's potential and natural resources. Therefore, with your mental and physical abilities, you have achieved a great deal of which we can be proud.

In history, 25 years is a short period of time. However, thanks to what has been achieved in the past 25 years, that period is an epoch full of work and production.

You have had a prominent role in Syria's great development and huge progress over the past 25 years in all spheres of life—economically, socially, and politically.

Those huge achievements are associated with the efforts of your brother peasants, who doubled production many times and achieved food security for the people. In addition, the security, stability, and national unity that have been achieved bolster our steadfastness in the face of all challenges.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Over the past 25 years, Syria's status rose on the pan-Arab and international levels.

Our homeland, whose people—men and women, workers and peasants, students and youths, tradesmen, intellectuals, professionals, and soldiers—are characterized by alertness, awareness, enthusiasm, and sacrifice, does not fear difficulties and does not submit or weaken. It is the homeland of pride and loftiness, moving from one success to another, and from one victory to another; a homeland which is capable of reaching its goals and targets. When the conviction that the homeland is the dearest of all becomes well-established, the masses of the people will work in accordance with this proposition.

We in the peace battle are made strong by our people and their resources, by our brave Armed Forces, the defender of the homeland, and by our country's many resources.

In waging this battle, we rely on the fact that we do not compromise our rights and principles.

I take this opportunity to bless your efforts and send you my love. Through the executive office of your trade union, the General Trade Union Federation, I send warm greetings to all of you, men and women workers, in all places of work, and to your families. I voice the conviction that with God's help and our great people's efforts, we will attain a bright future, and we look forward to it.

Let us continue to apply the resolve and determination that characterized our march over the many years that have passed in the struggle over the coming years in order to realize for our own generation and future generations happy life and prosperity which they deserve.

Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, president of the republic

Jordanian Figure Hails Movement

JN1111163895 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Milhim al-Tall, secretary general of the Constitutional Jordanian Arab Front Party and official spokesman of the Jordanian Popular Congress for the Protection of the Homeland and the Resistance of Normalization, paid tribute to the wise and courageous leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. He characterized the blessed Corrective Movement as a fulfillment of the promise of Arabs to history.

In a statement on the silver jubilee of the blessed Corrective Movement, al-Tall said: The dawn of the Corrective Movement broke 25 years ago, under the leadership of the unique struggler and first teacher in the school of Arab allegiance and unionist action, President Hafiz al-Asad. The Corrective Movement corrected the Arab nation's political and military course to serve the future interests of the nation.

Al-Tall spoke about attempts to undermine the Corrective Movement by those who seek to harm Arab interests. Leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad knew all those rancorous people. His struggle experience, as well as his knowledge of history, helped him steer the ship of the Arabs to a safety shore to protect Arab accomplishments.

Al-Tall added: Syria's positions in this critical turning point in our history inspire reassurance and peace in the hearts of those who fulfilled their pledges to God, out of their determination to preserve the nation's dignity and protect its rights and future. Syria has not yielded to all the pressures and provocations. It is strongly raising the banner of Arab loftiness, assisted by all the masses of the nation.

Al-Tall went on: Sisterly Syria and its leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad are not in need of responding to hostile campaigns and attempts at distortion and casting doubt. This is because Syria's methodological approach and clear pan-Arab positions exposed all these lies and defeated all malicious campaigns and fabrications, thus exposing those who surrendered and rushed to the lap of the enemies.

Al-Tall concluded: Thanks to heroic Syria, the Arab world is now free of the causes of despair and inaction. The negative aspects of this stage did not succeed in destroying our strong confidence in our ability to hold our ground. Let us have more faith and confidence in our nation and let us remain committed to our responsibilities. God bless the Corrective Movement and the one who launched it, the inspired leader Hafiz al-Asad. God bless Damascus, the bearer of the banner of unity and liberation and the banner of glory and steadfastness.

New Tourism Minister Appointed

JN0911165995 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Damascus, 9 Nov (SANA)—President Hafiz al-Asad has issued Decree No. 386 dated 9 November 1995, relieving Tourism Minister Muhammad Amin Abu-al-Shamat from his post.

His excellency also issued Decree No. 387 dated 9 November 1995 amending Dr. Danhu Dawud's title mentioned in Decree No. 153 dated 29 June 1992 to read as follows: Dr. Danhu Dawud, minister of tourism. [previously minister of state for cabinet affairs]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Afghanistan

President Gives 'Exclusive' Interview on Pakistan

NC1011201395 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani has accused foreign countries, especially Pakistan, of interfering in Afghanistan's affairs. He described [the] Taleban movement, which is demanding that he leave power, as an enemy of Islam. He said this in an exclusive interview conducted by our correspondent Ra'fat Yahya in Kabul:

[Begin recording] [Rabbani] It is no secret to you or to anyone watching the situation in Afghanistan that foreign quarters mobilize, arm, and finance mercenary forces and send them to Afghanistan. They establish various coalitions; when one coalition fails, they establish a new one. This is the original cause of the problem in Afghanistan; namely, foreign interference, enmity to the Islamic state, and hostility against a strong, independent Islamic Afghanistan.

[Yahya] Your Excellency, what are the countries that [word indistinct] Afghanistan today?

[Rabbani] I will not give many names, but one of them is the country that we never thought would interfere in any such way in Afghanistan. It is Pakistan. We appreciate the position of the Pakistani people, and the position of the Pakistani leaders who were [in power] in Pakistan at the time of emigration and jihad. We appreciate them and we appreciate the support of the Pakistani people. But now, under its new leaders, Pakistan began flagrant interference.

[Yahya] What is your position on Taleban movement?

[Rabbani] They are the enemies of Islam. After they realized that their various conspiracies did not succeed, they wanted to use a new element with deep roots among the Afghan people: The religious ulema. But it was finally proven that Taleban represents not the trend of the religious ulema or the students of religious schools, but a conspiracy by the enemies of Islam and Muslims to attack Islam and the Muslim 'Ulema in the name of the students of religious schools. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Lodges Protest With Pakistan

LD0911183895 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [Words indistinct] note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan [ISA].

Following interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, minister of foreign affairs of Pakistan, accompanied by Kazi Humayun [former ambassador of Pakistan in Kabul], has recently paid a visit to Mazar-e Sharif to carry out a provocative mission against the ISA without any previous notice or consent from the Afghan Government.

This interventionist visit by the Pakistani foreign minister, in being contrary to all accepted international principles and norms, once again endorses the ISA's righteous and undeniable claim [words indistinct].

The visit is taking place exactly at the time when [words indistinct] and the UN goodwill endeavors are under way in this direction.

It is clear, without any doubt, that the main objective of Asif Ali's visit to the city of Mazar-e Sharif and possibly to other cities of Afghanistan, without the ISA's central government consent, is to create fresh obstacles and difficulties for reaching an inter- Afghan understanding to end the current hostility. The visit also demonstrates fresh activities by Pakistan's Government to increase the miseries of the Afghan people.

In lodging a strong protest to the Pakistani Foreign Ministry regarding the provocative visit by Ahmad Ali to the city of Mazar-e Sharif, the ISA's Foreign Ministry has the opinion that such blatant moves and intervention by Pakistan's Government in the internal affairs of Afghanistan are not consistent with the long-term interests and friendship between the two fraternal nations of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Surely, the responsibility for the intensification of the situation in Afghanistan and regional crisis rests on the Government of Pakistan.

Tehran Envoy Denounces Pakistani Minister's Visit

LD1111213895 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Pashto 1230 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A source in the Afghan embassy in Tehran has denounced the visit of Pakistan's Foreign Minister to Mazar-e Sharif, capital of Balkh Province and regards the visit as an open interference in the Internal affairs of Afghanistan.

In his interview with a correspondent from the Radio-Television of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Khorasani, charge d'affaires of the Afghan embassy in Tehran, said this afternoon: The visit of Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali to Mazar-e Sharif was an action contrary to the principles of goodneighborly relations and norms of international law. He further said that in his visit to Mazar-e Sharif and meeting with Dostam, leader of the Northern National Movement, Pakistan's foreign minister was trying to bring Dostam closer to the Taleban

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

group so that both groups can jointly launch an attack on Kabul.

The Afghan charge d'affaires regarded the visit of the U.S. assistant secretary of state to Afghanistan as inconclusive. He condemned Pakistani and U.S. support for the Taleban group as well as their efforts to bring former King Zahir Shah into the political arena.

Referring to President Rabbani's readiness to step down, Khorasani said that a cease-fire and working out of a mechanism acceptable to all Jihadi parties and groups, are conditions for Rabbani to step down. He cannot step down until these conditions are met.

He also said that the process of peace in Afghanistan is now beyond the reach of Mestiri, the UN secretary general's special envoy for Afghanistan.

Khorasani also rejected a claim by the Taleban group on the bombardment of Bagram Airport.

Air Defense Forces Test Surface to Air Missiles

LD0811210895 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The country's air defense force will be further strengthened by having Strela type guided missiles.

BAKHTAR reported that a tactical exercise in utilization of Pechora and Strela type surface-to-air missiles was carried out yesterday, during the course of a ceremony, at a military base. The ceremony was attended by Acting Defense Minister Mohammad Yonis Qanuni; deputy ministers of defense; Lieutenant General Mir Anjamoddin, general commander of the air force, and a number of generals and officers. At this ceremony, Brigadier General Sayd Rahim Behyar, commander of the air defense force first spoke about the nature of the exercise and its effect in enhancing the level of personnel experience, and the role of the engineers and technicians in activating and reviving the utilization of modern missiles in combat operation. The system has been damaged, as a result of events in recent years.

Air defense force units participating in the exercise then successfully launched the Strela-10 surface-to-air missiles toward the targets. The Pechora type guided surface-to-air missiles were then launched toward the targets, which attracted attention. At the end of the exercise, esteemed Qanuni, in positively assessing the exercises, expressed appreciation for the good feelings and enormous interest of the air defense force's personnel. He drew their attention to their future duties in the task of reviving modern combat techniques.

An air defense force official then said: The Pechora guided surface-to-air missiles, with 25 km range, accurately chase and destroy the predetermined targets. Each has an accurate system of chasing the target. The Strela missiles also have an accurate system of chasing the target. It destroys the target within a range of eight kilometers.

Taleban Spokesman Denies Agreement With Hekmatyar

LD1311064795 Tehran IRNA in English 0620 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad, Nov. 13, IRNA — The Afghan student militia of Taleban denied on Monday [13 November] the claims of opposition leader Gulboddin Hekmatyar that the two have struck an agreement to oust the Kabul government led by President Borhanoddin Rabbani.

"We have neither made any alliance nor have signed any agreement," Maulvi Ahmad Jan, the Taleban spokesman in Peshawar told IRNA in a telephone conversation.

Hekmatyar, the chief of his own faction of Hezb-e-Eslami [Islamic Party], announced in an address to his party on Friday in Shamshatu, a village some 10 km off Peshawar, that the Taleban and a four-party opposition alliance, the Supreme Coordination Council of Afghanistan, have agreed on a number of points aimed at dislodging the Kabul regime.

The Taleban spokesman said alliances could not resolve the crisis in Afghanistan. He cited as an example the alliance between Rabbani's strongman Ahmad Shah Mas'ud and Uzbek General Abdol Rashid Dostam, adding that Shah Mas'ud and Dostam have now turned into arch-rivals.

He said the Taleban had held talks with different Afghan groups and parties but had not signed any agreement with them.

Radio Reports on Taleban's Attack on Kabul

LD0911190595 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [Words indistinct] Quoting a source from the security forces, BAKHTAR reported that the mercenary group of Taleban, last night around 2000 hours embarked on an aggression against the defensive lines of the Islamic army's forces from the directions of Maydan Shahr, Sanglakh, and Arghandi. The enemy's attacks were foiled as a result of the resistance by the Mojahedin and forces of the Islamic army. Fifty men of the invaders were killed and another four of them were captured.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The report adds that four tanks of the mercenary Taleban were destroyed and the enemy's 30 dead bodies are still laying on the areas under the control of the Islamic army.

The resistance and bravery of the Islamic army's forces and the Mojahedin vis-a-vis attacks by the Taleban group and their repeated defeats along the front lines have weakened the combat ability of Benazir's Bhutto's Taleban. A large number of the forces, who are leaving behind their weapons, are fleeing the battlefronts.

Taleban Reportedly Sustains Losses, Loses 60 Men

LD1011174295 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In the course of their attack carried out two nights ago, Benazir Bhutto's Taleban lost 60 men. In addition to this, three tanks and a number of the invaders' heavy weapons were also eliminated in the south and western directions of Kabul.

A source of the armed forces reported to BAKHTAR that, in the course of their attacks over the past two days, Benazir Bhutto's Taleban have sustained 60 dead only in the direction of Maydan Shahr. One of their tanks and one ZK-1 were also destroyed.

The country's bomber aircraft bombarded yesterday the Taleban's concentration points in Kojak and Qala-e Loqman areas, Logar Province, as a result of which four petroleum tankers together with their passengers and four DUTSUN motor vehicles together with eight passengers, were all eliminated.

Today, the country's airforce fiercely bombarded Taleban's fortifications in the south of Kabul, as a result of which 14 mercenary Talebans were killed. Two of their tanks together with one BM-12 were destroyed. At present, a large number of dead bodies of Taleban are scattered along the frontlines. Along the Maydan Shahr front alone, 17 bodies are being counted which are still laying on the ground.

Taleban Reportedly Attacks Bagram Base

LD1111111495 Tehran IRNA in English 1047 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kabul, Nov. 11, IRNA — The Taleban group claimed on Friday [11 November] that its fighter plans bombarded the Bagram air base in northern Afghanistan. A spokesman of the group said that three fighters of this group returned safely to their base in Kandahar after completing a sortie and pounding the government- controlled base, which is located 60 km from northern Kabul.

Reacting to the Taleban's claim, an Afghan Defense Ministry source denied on Friday night any operation on the Bagram air base, saying that the bombs were released in the desert areas around the base. The source added that routine activities at the base continued as usual, adding that two government fighters took off from this air base and pounded Taleban positions in southern Kabul.

Bagram is the sole air base that the Afghan government uses for military purposes.

Taleban Reportedly Resumes Shelling of Kabul

LD1111153395 Tehran IRNA in English 1514 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kabul, Nov. 11, IRNA — Some 20 people were killed or wounded and substantial losses inflicted on civilian areas as the Afghan student militias resumed shelling of Kabul on Friday [11 November]. IRNA reports indicate that Taleban fired at least 30 rockets at Kabul from Friday to Saturday noon.

Afghan government sources say that just on Friday three people were killed or injured in the shelling and at least four residential units, in west and northeast Kabul, destroyed. Twelve more Afghans were killed or wounded on Saturday in missile attacks launched by the Talebans on the Afghan capital. According to government sources, the Taleban have intensified their artillery and missile attack on Kabul in retaliation for their defeat in Maydan Shahr earlier on Saturday.

On Saturday, Afghan government forces stormed the Taleban's positions in 'Maydan Shahr,' 40 km from Kabul, overrunning four barracks in 'Chahar Tappeh' and inflicting losses and casualties on Taleban forces.

Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Dr. 'Abdollah told IRNA here Saturday that government forces had launched attack since 8 a.m. local times and that fierce battles were raging on between the belligerent sides in the region. 'Abdollah declined to divulge the number of casualties suffered by government troops but said that scores of forces loyal to Taleban, had been killed or injured and a number of others taken captive. He said that some arms and ammunition belonging to the Taleban were seized and several personnel carriers destroyed.

It was the first time in the past two months that forces loyal to President Borhanoddin Rabbani had quitted defensive position and launched offensives against the Taleban.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Rockets Said To Kill 35 in Kabul

LD1111181895 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Benazir Bhutto's Taleban once again fired rockets on Kabul City as a result of which 35 citizens were killed and another 50 wounded last night and this morning.

A BAKHTAR correspondent who witnessed events reports as follows:

[Unidentified correspondent] One of the BM [expansion unknown] type missiles of Benazir Bhutto's Taleban landed on Qayse Headquarters [artists center], killing eight artists. Television artist Masum Sahar together with his 11-year-old daughter were and killed covered with blood. Homayun Sadozai, Sharif Khayrkhah, Atequllah Zahir, and Mir Hamid are also among those who were martyred. Two of their coordinators Wayse Bahran and Aziz- were seriously injured. A number of other rockets hit residential houses, killing four women and one old man in various parts of the city. Another 12 persons, mostly women and children, were seriously injured.

The rockets fired had a powerful destructive capability. Four houses were raised to the ground and four members of a family were wounded in one house.

Last night, when people were asleep, the strike by one BM-21 rocket disrupted the peace of the night at 2100. As a result, five Muslim citizens were killed in their sleep.

As a result of the Taleban rocket strikes last night and today,, a total of about 50 people were injured [words indistinct].

Observers believe that the main reason for subjecting Kabul to a rain of rockets is the frustration of the Taleban group. They are totally disappointed about not making any progress along the front lines.

The Television General Department and Afghan Film are expressing their condolences to the families of the martyrs and all staff of the art center on the loss of these innocent citizens and the country's professional artists, asking Almighty God to bless the souls of the martyrs and give them a place in the heaven.

Radio Television and Afghan Film regard the death of these artists as a great loss [words indistinct].

Islamic Army Reportedly Captures Taleban Positions

LD1111184695 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Islamic Army forces have captured 11 strongholds of Benazir Bhutto's Taleban toward Kowt-e 'Ashrow, Vardak Province.

An armed forces source told BAKHTAR [words indistinct] that the seizure of weapons and the above fortifications became possible when the Islamic Army broke through the Taleban first defensive line this morning. As a result of today's operation, dozens of the mercenary Taleban were either killed or injured and a number of them were captured alive by the Islamic Army forces.

The country's war planes during the day bombarded several times the Taleban's positions several times during the day [words indistinct].

India

Congress-I Protests Against U.S. Official's Visit

BK1111085495 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the capital, Congress-I workers yesterday held a demonstration against the visit of the American assistant secretary of state, Ms. Robin Raphel. The demonstration was led by the DCC-I [Delhi Congress Committee-I] general secretary, Mr. Anil Mithal. He said the people will not tolerate any interference in the internal affairs of our country.

U.S. Resumption of Nuclear Testing Condemned

BK1211125895 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 12 Nov 95

[Commentary by Ajay K. Roy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The decision of the U.S. Administration to go in for six underground tests at the Nevada test site during the two next years has once gain brought to the fore the hypocrisy of the nuclear powers on the issue of nonproliferation and other related matters. This has also sent a loud and clear signal to India to keep off any of the discriminatory nonproliferation regimes being propounded by the industrialized West, while keeping its nuclear options open. The first of such tests, as announced by the U.S. Department of Atomic Energy, is to take place by 18 June next year. The ostensible reasons (?jutted) out by the U.S. for such tests are that these are essential to keep the existing nuclear weapons as well as the nuclear test sites in fine settle. All this sounds completely hollow as the reasons given

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

out in this case are no different from those fabricated in the instances of French nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific and Chinese explosions at Lop Nor.

In fact, the U.S. decision causing shockwaves in international circles has given lie to President Clinton's recent assertion that there will be no tests once the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty [CTBT] came into force. It has now been established that he could make such statement not because of genuine concern for putting a halt to the nuclear proliferation but because techniques, which are superior to obsolescent tests are now available in the field.

The decision has vindicated India's consistent stand that the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, NPT, has failed in its basic objective of containing the nuclear multiplication, both vertical and horizontal, among some countries. Immediately after the NPT was given indefinite extension, China carried out two nuclear tests in quick succession, caring two hoots for the concern of the countries in the region and beyond. Subsequently, the French president, Jacques Chirac, shortly after his election announced that his country will conduct six to seven undersea tests during the run-up to the CTBT. France has so far carried out three powerful tests despite stiff opposition at home and from the international community.

Coming at a time when the fresh round of negotiations on CTBT are to be resumed, the U.S. decision has further hampered the credibility of this proposed arrangement. When the treaty was mooted, the prevalent view was that besides putting a stop to proliferation by countries newly attempting to develop nuclear weapons, it would make testing of weapons and stockpile difficult in the long run and ultimately lead to the decay of nuclear arsenal with the nuclear powers. However, it has now become clear that nuclear-weapon powers are interested in achieving their first objective while at the same time making every effort to ensure that their capability to maintain a reliable and operational nuclear arsenal is not impaired in any manner.

It is astounding that the U.S. having lost all moral authority on nuclear and related issues because of its sheer chicanery is trying to browbeat India into signing the NPT and slowing down its missile development program, particularly the test-firing and eventual deployment of Agni and Prithvi missiles. Recently, the grouping of seven developed countries, G-7, at its summit meeting Halifax asked India to go slow with its missile program and for the first time expressed serious concern over the situation in Kashmir. In view of the blatant double standards of nuclear-weapon powers and the vacillating self-motivated stand of the U.S. Administration on nuclear proliferation, India must exercise its discretion with a firmness of rejecting the CTBT as it did in the case of NPT if certain conditions were not fulfilled. As a prerequisite to it, being a party to the treaty the nuclear haves must dismantle all test sites and subject all tests that involved fissionable material to a strict international verification.

Minister Hails CHOGM Decision To Suspend Nigeria

BK1211092095 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India has hailed the Commonwealth decision to suspend Nigeria from its membership saying that it will greatly strengthen the group. The external affairs minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, said in Auckland that the decision will also enforce promotion of democracy throughout the world. Mr. Mukherjee is representing India at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet [CHOGM] currently under way at Auckland. Nigeria was suspended yesterday from the Commonwealth following the execution of nine activists of minority rights in the West African country, including the writer Ken Saro-Wiwa. Mr. Mukherjee said New Delhi, while attaching great value of its long and close ties with Nigeria, fully subscribes to the Queenstown statement of the Commonwealth leaders. He expressed the hope that authorities in Lagos will rapidly respond to the Commonweath call and rejoin the group as early as possible.

Meanwhile, the Commonwealth leaders are discussing the follow-up action on their unprecedented decision to suspend Nigeria. The suspension is being seen as the group's emphasis on the principles laid down in the Harare Declaration, which committed member states to promote democracy and human rights.

Contact Said Reestablished With Tourist Kidnappers

BK0911125795 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the Kashmir Valley, contact was reestablished today with the abductors of four foreign tourists. An official spokesman said in Srinagar this evening that the kidnappers contacted the official authorities thrice today, both on telephone and wireless. They said that the two hostages — one of them from America and the other from Britain — were sick, but they were being treated. The spokesman described the restoration of contact after 52 days as a positive development and hoped that the tourists will be released soon.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Japanese Tourist Reportedly Missing in Kashmir

BK1211170395 Hong Kong AFP in English 1656 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Srinagar, India, Nov 12 (AFP) — A Japanese tourist has gone missing in the troubled Indian state of Kashmir, where four Westerners have been held captive by Moslem rebels for more than four months, a police official said here Sunday [12 November].

He said the Japanese tourist was last seen in the state summer capital Srinagar a week ago.

'Massive Manhunt' Launched for Tourist

BK1311055995 Hong Kong AFP in English 0546 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Srinagar, India, Nov 13 (AFP) — The police launched a massive manhunt Monday [13 November] for a Japanese tourist missing since last week in Kashmir, where four Westerners have been held hostage by Muslim rebels for more than four months.

City police chief S.P. Mishra said officers have been sent to several areas in the northern Himalayan province to try and track down the tourist, identified as Chiba Kazuakiba.

He was last seen on November 5 in Srinagar.

Ali Mohammad Chapri, owner of the house boat, said Kazuakiba arrived from New Delhi on November 5, paid him 6,000 rupees (200 dollars) in advance to rent his house boat for 30 days and "simply vanished" while walking along the heavily-guarded lake.

Chapri said the tourist was in his early 20s and spoke fluent English, although Kashmir police have not yet given details of Kazuakiba's age or hometown.

Paramilitary troops and the Indian army have also been alerted in Kashmir, the hub of a raging Muslim separatist campaign which has killed thousands in the frontier region.

Mishra said police suspect the young tourist could have been abducted by Muslim separatist guerrillas after going for a walk from his rented house boat on the Dal Lake.

Although so far no Muslim militants groups have accepted responsibility for Kazuakiba's disappearance, the first involving a Japanese in Kashmir, police here initially announced the July kidnappings of four Western tourists, seized by the Al-Faran Muslim rebel group, in a similar fashion, reporting them to have been "missing." [passage omitted]

Kashmir Act Said Amended To Facilitate Elections

BK0911162395 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Jammu and Kashmir Representation of the People Act 1957 has been further amended to facilitate holding of assembly elections in the state. According to an official release in Jammu, it is being considered necessary that certain provisions of the state act be brought at par with those of the central acts, besides incorporating certain other amendments. The amended acts stipulate that election in a constituency in the state will be countermanded in case of booth capturing. The displaced Kashmiri migrants will be able to vote outside the state. The amended act also provides noninclusion of expenses incurred by a political party in the expenditure of a candidate in connection with the election.

Election Commission Decides Against Kashmir Vote

BK1011144295 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Election Commission has unanimously decided not to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir at present. This was stated by the chief election commissioner, Mr. T.N. Seshan, at a press conference in New Delhi today. He said the commission took this decision after consultations with the government and also the assessment by the commission during its visit to the state, the views expressed by political parties, and the assessment made by the media. He said the commission will wait for the creation of appropriate conditions for holding free and fair elections in the state and it would not recommend at present to the governor of the state to initiate polling process for the state assembly.

Further on Election Decision

BK1011160895 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Election Commission has unanimously decided not to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir [J and K] as the conditions are not conducive for holding free and fair elections at present. This was stated by the chief election commissioner, Mr. T.N. Seshan, while addressing a press conference in New Delhi today. He said the commission has taken this decision after consultations with government, assessment made by the three-member commission during its visit to the valley on Wednesday [8 November] and views expressed by political parties. Mr. Seshan said:

[Begin Seshan recording] The commission has come to the conclusion with absolute unanimity and with

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

no reservation whatsoever that the sum total of factors available at present in the state of Jammu and Kashmir are not consistent with the conduct a fair and free elections. The commission has, therefore, decided with total unanimity that it cannot recommend at present to the governor of J and K the initiation of elections to the J and K assembly by the issue of any notification, and that it will wait for the creation of conditions appropriate to the holding of a fair and free elections. [end recording]

Expressing regret over the Election Commission's decision , the home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, said that the commission was perhaps, looking for ideal conditions for the conduct of the poll in Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement, he said everybody is aware that the conditions in the state are not being allowed to be normal and the main factor is the supply of arms, men, and materials from across the border to fuel terrorism. The home minister said great improvement has been brought about in controlling terrorism in the last one and half years. developmental activities have picked up and political activity has also gained momentum. The government considered all these aspects in detail and was convinced that the situation in the valley was conducive for restoration of the democratic process in the state.

The Congress-I has described the Election Commission's decision on polls in Jammu and Kashmir as a setback to the political process in the state. The joint secretary of the party in charge of Jammu and Kashmir, Major Ved Prakash, said that the party will go to the people in a planned manner so that the situation conducive to hold elections was created and polls are held early. He also appealed to the other political parties to take steps to revive political process in the state.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has hailed the decision of the Election Commission on Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections. The party president, Mr. L.K. Advani, said in Bombay today that the situation in the valley is not conducive for holding polls in the strategic state.

Political Party Views on Kashmir Elections Reported

BK0911162195 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The National Conference has decided not to take part in the proposed elections in Jammu and Kashmir next month. The party president, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, says his party is not against the elections, but maintained that the situation in the Kashmir Valley and some other parts of the state is not conducive for holding free and fair elections. He was speaking to newsmen in Srinagar after a two-day meeting of the party Working Committee. Welcoming the prime minister's statement on more autonomy for the state, Dr. Abdullah said it is a move in the right direction, but not enough has been offered to meet the aspirations of the people. He said the National Conference would continue discussions with the union government to seek more autonomy for the state.

The pradesh [state] Congress-I general secretary, Mr. Taj Mohiuddin, has described the National Conference's decision as escapism and political opportunism.

The president of the Jammu and Kashmir Panther's Party, Mr. Bhim Singh, wanted elections to be held in the state at the earliest.

The state secretary of the CPI-M [Communist Party of India- Marxist], Mr. Mohammad Yusuf Taragami, suggested giving maximum autonomy to the state through a presidential order.

BJP's Choice of Vajpayee for Prime Minister Viewed

BK1111134495 Delhi NAVBHARAT TIMES in Hindi 1 Nov 95 p 1

["News Analysis" by Mukul Vyas]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] President Lal Krishna Advani has surprised political pundits by making the unambiguous declaration that Atal Behari Vajpayee will be the next prime minister, provided the BJP wins a majority in the next elections. Advani's declaration, though sudden, is the party's well-considered strategy.

The question arises as to why Advani had to make this announcement now. Recent events in the country's political scene have greatly damaged the BJP image. The party had always taken pride in being a disciplined and ideologically strong entity; however, political upheavals in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh have greatly tarnished the BJP's image in public eyes. The lust for power and personal ambitions of party members places the party in the same ranks as that of Congress-I. There has been an increase in internal strife and disunity in the states where the BJP is in power or is near to capturing power.

The virus of discontent is visible not only in Gujarat. During the last two months, party organizational elections were held in 17 states, and the state party president's post in three states, including Delhi, were bitterly contested. The party elections in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh had to be postponed due to increasing group rivalry. The voice of discontent was also clearly heard in Rajasthan, Bihar, and Maharashtra.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

As soon as the BJP made efforts to improve its image, tarnished due to internal squabbles and mutual differences, it was confronted with a new set of problems due to the events in Uttar Pradesh. The party high command was not in the mood to form a government in the state in the beginning, but its state unit was craving to assume power. Pressured by the state unit, the BJP high command also gave its support to the call to form a government in Uttar Pradesh. This was another blow for the party, which had always boasted of maintaining a clean image and not clinging to power.

The Narasimha Rao government is confronting the opposition parties with increasingly unique issues, and it can win elections by cashing in on these. First, however, a clean image is essential for any party to win an election. The BJP has begun an image polishing exercise to overcome the political reversals it suffered in recent days, and the announcement of Vajpayee's name for the prime minister's post is part of this exercise. Vajpayee is a popular leader with a clean image, and the party's senior politicians believe that his name could contribute toward the party's victory in the next elections.

Report on BJP Leader's Predictions for Elections

BK1111114195 Delhi NAVBHARAT TIMES in Hindi 1 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, VARTA]

[FBIS Translated Text] Manawar, Madhya Pradesh, 31 Oct—Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] President Lal Krishna Advani today claimed that his party will win a clear majority in the next parliamentary elections and that Atal Behari Vajpayee will be the next prime minister.

Addressing a party meeting here, Advani said the elections will not result in a hung parliament and the BJP will win a clear majority; the BJP will contest 475 seats and have a clear majority.

On the issue of economic reforms, the BJP president said that he is in favor of economic reform; however, he is opposed to the presence of multinationals.

Advani said he favors holding elections in Jammu and Kashmir on the condition that the elections are held under peaceful conditions. He demanded more fiscal rights for the states and said that development schemes in the state should not be left to the mercy of the Union Government.

Earlier, in Ratlam, he said that the BJP has not made a mistake by withdrawing support for the Bahujan Samaj Party government in Uttar Pradesh. He admitted, however, that the Gujarat events are definitely a psychological blow to the party.

At a news conference, Advani denied that the Gujarat crisis will have an impact on the next Lok Sabha elections. Advani said it was merely a 10-day crisis, which the BJP solved on its own. He added that the party will contest the next elections on its own; however, there will be an understanding with Shiv Sena. The possibility of forging alliances with regional parties on state levels will be considered based on the future situation.

Advani disclosed that the BJP Executive Committee meeting in Pune beginning 7 November and the party's national convention in Bombay from 10-12 November will discuss the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections and the party manifesto.

Advani said that Prime Minister Narasimha Rao returned empty- handed from the recent overseas trip. He added that the U.S. announcement of arms and economic assistance to Pakistan during Rao's visit there is our big diplomatic failure.

Meanwhile, talking to newsmen yesterday, BJP Leader Murli Manohar Joshi said that Prime Minister Rao should not accept Farooq Abdullah's demand to restore Kashmir to its pre-1953 situation and to grant autonomy to the state.

Iran

U.S. Reportedly 'Ready' for Unconditional Talks

LD1111113295 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States says that it is ready for unconditional talks with the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Peter] Tarnoff, under secretary of state for political affairs, announced this news in an address to the House of Representatives. Explaining the reasons for lack of any talks between the U.S. and Iranian governments, he said: During the past 12 years as well as under present conditions, the Iranian government has had no interest whatsoever in holding such talks.

Tarnoff also announced: The Clinton administration seeks to carry out further measures to increase pressure on Iran, particularly with a view to limit Iran's oil and gas revenues.

AFP, reporting the news, adds: This White House move is tantamount to a confrontation with the United States' big allies such as Britain, France, Italy, and Germany. Business firms in those countries are enthusiastic about participating in Iran's oil plans.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Notes Efforts by 'Global Arrogance'

LD1211115295 Tehran IRNA in English 1059 GMT 12 Nov 95

["Daily: Global Arrogance Living up to its Name" — IRNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 12, IRNA — The title 'Global Arrogance', reserved for the United States, comes from the attitude that America should poke its nose everywhere in the world and tilt events in its interest, an English-language daily wrote Sunday [13 November].

The TEHRAN TIMES further quoted U.S. Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff while addressing the house International Relations Committee, that the White House is willing to work with republican law makers on a measure to tighten U.S. trade sanctions against Iran by punishing foreign companies that buy Iranian oil and gas.

The editorial also said the infamous speaker of the house, Newt Gingrich, wants to launch a multi-million dollar covert intelligence program to destabilize the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Referring to U.S. attitude in relation to the internal affairs of other countries, the paper recalled that, first, the United States stole land from the American Indians (or should we say native Americans) and claimed the land for itself.

Then it imported Africans, turned them into slaves, and forced them to do the heavy work in building the country.

"Once firmly established, the U.S. decided to rule the world," the editorial remarked, adding that a recent stark example is the U.S. decision about what Vietnam's fate should be.

Washington decided that it was not in the interest of the United States for Vietnam to be one country, under communist rule. Therefore, the paper wrote, America waged a war that killed 53,000 of its citizens, a war which 20 years later was admitted by former U.S. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara as a mistake.

The article underlined, "the new scenario is thus: Prevent companies from buying Iranian oil. Drastically reduce Iranian export income."

Other objectives are to induce astronomical inflation, scarcity of goods, perhaps even starvation of children as in Iraq, adding that these means are used to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran.

After all these, the paper noted with irony, the United States claims that it stands for the sovereignty and independence of nations, for democracy and for human rights."

Foreign Ministry Denies PRC Chemical Warfare Aid

LD1211110695 Tehran IRNA in English 1021 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 12, IRNA — A senior foreign ministry official here yesterday refuted U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Bruce Reidel's allegations that China was helping Iran develop chemical weapons.

Speaking to the English-language daily TEHRAN TIMES published Sunday [12 November], the head of the foreign ministry's department of Southeast Asian Affairs, Mohammad Reza'i, said that Iran is a chief victim of chemical weapons and under no circumstances will it go after such materials.

"We have always condemned the use of chemical weapons," underlined the foreign ministry official.

The TEHRAN TIMES reported that in a statement before the House of Representatives on Thursday, Reidel noted that Chinese companies are collaborating with Iran in the latter's chemical weapons program.

The United States has been trying to blackmail Iran and China to follow its foreign policy line, the daily stressed, but the two countries have resisted U.S. pressure.

The United States has also attempted to influence China to limit its trade relations with Iran, but Chinese officials have not paid heed to U.S. maneuverings.

Washington imposed a unilateral trade embargo on Iran on the pretext that Tehran is trying to use nuclear technology to make a bomb, continued the paper, adding Iranian officials have categorically denied the U.S. allegation.

In the meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin this summer, U.S. President Bill Clinton failed to convince Russia to stop its nuclear cooperation with Iran as Clinton could not provide any evidence that the Tehran was after nuclear weapons, it wrote.

The White House has been using the Iran card for the upcoming elections, said the TEHRAN TIMES, and noted that Bruce Reidel's statement was another baseless allegation that the U.S. Administration has made in its bid to garner votes.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Velayati Comments on al-Shaqaqi's Death, Islam

NC1011192995 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 1 Nov 95 p 16

[FBIS Translated Text] In an interview with a KEYHAN correspondent, [Minister of Foreign Affairs] Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati lauded martyr Fathi al-Shaqaqi and stressed that the martyrdom of the leader of the Islamic Jihad movement of the Islamic revolution of Palestine will have wider and more profound repercussions.

Yesterday morning, our Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati was interviewed by our correspondent. Lauding the martyr Fathi al-Shaqaqi, he referred to the thoughts of this martyr on the Palestinian problem and said: The martyr Fathi al-Shaqaqi followed the example set by revolutionary Islam and by the Islamic revolution for the liberation of Jerusalem. He added: Martyr al-Shaqaqi believed that the salvation of Islam and the Muslims is contingent upon the return of Islamic values and unity among Muslims. He considered Palestine to be the gateway to the world of Islam. Dr. Velayati said that the continuation of the existence of the Zionist regime depends on terrorist attempts and on resorting to war and added: The assassination of opponents has always been one of the well-known methods used by this illegitimate regime.

Commenting on the impact of Fathi al-Shaqaqi's martyrdom on the continuation of the Palestinian people's struggles, the foreign minister said: Despite the Zionist regime's terrorist attempts, the movement of the Palestinian revolution will become deeper and more extensive each day.

Dr. Velayati added: What has terrified the Zionist regime is the strengthening of the bases of Islam among the Palestinian Muslims and especially the refugees, but such [terrorist] acts will not only not harm the firm determination of the Muslims, but they will also encourage them to continue their resistance and their fight to liberate Jerusalem.

Stating that during the past four wars, after each war and even after each agreement, the Zionists have occupied Islamic territories, Dr. Velayati added: Now the Muslims, and especially the Palestinian Muslims, have made Islam the basis of their anti- Zionist struggles and have rendered the Zionist regime helpless.

Dr. Velayati described the solidarity shown by the Islamic ummah of Iran with the Islamic movement of Palestine and the protest against the Zionist regime's terrorism as a sign of Islamic unity and added: They will understand that the Palestinian Muslims are not without support and that the world of Islam is not indifferent to such terrorist acts. In the same way that the blood shed by our martyrs strengthened our people's revolutionary actions, the intifadah too will be strengthened now.

Pointing out that two schools of thought—one which believes in God and the other that does not—exist in the world today, Dr. Velayati said: Schools of thought, the essence of the existence of which is based on the separation of religion from politics, will be defeated by the school of thought that is based on the need for divine values in the lives of people.

Dr. Velayati said that the efforts by the followers of secularism in the Third World that are aimed at forcing the people to set aside divine values are futile and added: Consecutive Islamic movements in the world of Islam, the most complete and most comprehensive of which is the movement of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, have been the prologue to the return to Islam and spirituality in this century, and now even the Catholic Church is flourishing thanks to the commencement of inclinations to spirituality and religion.

Commentaries View Rabin Assassination, Aftermath

Khamene'i Remarks Viewed

LD0911210895 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 9 Nov 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The leader of the Islamic revolution, Grand Ayatollah Khamene'i, addressed a gathering of high commanders of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps and the cadets of the Imam Hoseyn Military University on November 8th. The leader touched on the treatment of the sacrilegious of dependent states towards martyrdom of Dr. Fathi al-Shaqaqi and assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin. Grand Ayatollah Khamene'i highlighted the fundamental difference of this treatment with the reaction shown by the awakened and liberal people of the world to these two events. Leader of the Islamic revolution pointed out: The short span of time from the martyrdom of the great combatant Palestinian personality, Dr. al- Shaqaqi, to the death of Rabin provided a scarce and unquestionable opportunity so that the world may find the standing and real performance of the dominant world powers. It was made clear which perspective the media affiliated to global imperialism and Zionism treat the world events. One finds the hand of Rabin in every drop of blood shed during the recent half century from the Palestinian Muslims in the occupied lands. Rabin is the unquestionable symbol of global international terrorism.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The leaders of imperialism, however, ignored this fact and mourned for him in the occupied Palestine, shedding tears for Rabin. International mass media, in obedience to the strategic policy of global Zionism, made massive efforts to present Rabin as a peace- loving man. These very heads of imperialism and the reactionaries and these very media affiliated to Zionist circles kept silent in the honorable but sad martyrdom of Dr. Fathi al-Shaqaqi. These media did not say that al-Shaqaqi, may his soul rest in peace, was martyred in the cause of a lofty and Islamic ideal. These media did not say that martyr al-Shaqaqi was martyred unmanly [in a cowardly fashion] because he was the selfless soldier of the front of the right against the wrong. These media did not talk about the deep character of martyr al-Shaqaqi but they attempted to purify Rabin, this notorious terrorist. But will Muslim and liberal people of the world evaluate these two events from this angle? Leader of the Islamic revolution, in response to this question, says a personality who fights for liberation of his land is a lofty man even though he may be unknown. And one whose hand is stained in the blood of Muslim Palestinian nation is a terrorist even if the dominant imperialist system loudly cries out the opposite.

Israel's 'Complete Annihilation' Urged

NC1211143095 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 5 Nov 95 p 2

[Unattributed commentary: "The Backbone of Compromise"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Yitzhaq Rabin, the prime minister of the regime occupying Jerusalem, who was killed in Tel Aviv yesterday afternoon was a veteran terrorist. In the years before the formation of the usurping Israeli Government, he actively participated in assassination squads the Zionists had formed, and he massacred the Palestinian people, bombed public buildings, and destroyed and set fire to people's homes together with other veteran terrorists such as Menachem Begin, Moshe Dayan, Shim'on Peres, and others. [passage omitted]

Incoming reports from Islamic countries and occupied Palestine indicate that early this morning, after the news on the assassination of the Zionist prime minister was published, a wave of happiness and joy overtook Muslim-inhabited areas worldwide. After hearing the news, people started congratulating each other, and in countries like Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and so on people overtly displayed their happiness, despite government pressures.

Apart from being an expression of their natural feelings, these extensive expressions of joy manifest another significant point: the invalidity of the efforts which some of the heads of Islamic countries are exerting in a bid to achieve compromise with the regime occupying Jerusalem. The reaction by Muslim nations on Rabin's death clearly shows that the compromising heads of some Islamic countries were only expressing their personal views in the so-called Middle East peace talks and in the compromise with Israel and that their promises to and agreements with the United States and with the heads of the regime occupying Jerusalem lacked even the least bit of support by their nations. The only acceptable solution for the Muslim nations is complete annihilation of the usurping Israeli regime—something that was emphasized by the late Imam, may his soul be sanctified, and which is being repeated by his worthy successor. And this is a path that the Intifadah, which represents the Muslim nations, has chosen and is following.

Opposition Reaction to Rabin Death Viewed

NC1211215495 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 6 Nov 95 p 2

[From the "Special Report" column]

[FBIS Translated Text] While reports on the death of the Zionist regime's Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who was one of the main engineers of terrorism in recent decades, has sparked a wave of joy throughout our Islamic homeland and among the world's Muslim nations, this incident has plunged the counterrevolutionary groups in exile into deep sorrow.

Counterrevolutionary groups and organizations abroad, some of which for years have paid great lip service to the fight against imperialism, have issued statements in which Rabin is described as a father, a freedom lover, and a reputable person and that his death is a great and sorrowful historical tragedy!

Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the terrorist monafeqin [hypocrites—a pejorative term for the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] has issued a statement in which the assassination of the Zionist prime minister has been condemned as a criminal act and condolences are extended to the people and Government of Israel and to Rabin's family. In the statement, Rajavi says: "This crime is what was wanted by the religious and terrorist dictatorship that rules Iran" which—in Rajavi's opinion—is "the major enemy of peace and the main source from which Islamic fundamentalism and terrorism are exported."

Also, the National Front of Iran has issued a statement in Europe in which the "dastardly assassination of the late prime minister of Israel, may his soul rest in peace(!), who made great sacrifices," has been condemned and

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"sincere condolences are extended to the Government and nation of Israel over this tragic incident!"

Continuing, the National Front of Iran addresses Shim'on Peres, head of the Zionist regime, and expresses happiness that he will be continuing the "late Rabin's" efforts!

Meanwhile, a very small group known as the "Party of the Iranian Nation," which is based abroad, has issued a statement that says: "Prime Minister General Yitzhaq Rabin was killed by the bullet of warmongering Israeli and he joined the ranks of those politicians in history who did not spare even their lives for the sake of peace."

The Organization of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq of Iran—Majority also issued a statement yesterday in which the lofty (!) position of Yitzhaq Rabin was lauded and condolences were extended to Israel.

The monarchist organization, Derafsh-e Kaviani too issued a statement yesterday, in Germany, in which it expresses its sorrow over the "death of a father" and writes: "Today the Israeli nation is not the only one which is mourning. All of the freedom-lovers of the world are plunged in a deep sorrow since today the world lost a dear and great father."

Further, the statement once again describes Rabin as a "father" and says: "Yitzhaq Rabin was a father whose laudable efforts taught all of us that we should be brave and fearless in order to fulfill our great aspirations. We should be firm and brave and rush to confront problems."

Another little known and obscure organization called the "Organization of the Supporters of Monarchy and the Liberation Forces of Iran" issued a statement in Germany and writes: "We the freedom-loving (!!) Iranians believe that Rabin was an outstanding political figure. The tragic death of this reputable (!) man's profound knowledge of Iran's past adopts a new meaning for the Iranians (!). This freedom-loving man was buried in the cold ground. But he will be warmly remembered in history."

What you have read above was not meant as a joke or a satirical piece that we concocted to entertain the pious people. These are all direct quotes from the Zionist radio.

Rabin's Death Called 'Divine Decree'

NC0911125595 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 6 Nov 95 p 2

[Editorial: "Rabin's Execution—a Divine Decree"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Last Sunday [29 October], when upon receiving news of the martyrdom of the secretary-general of Islamic Jihad Movement, Fathi al-Shaqaqi, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that he did not feel sorry over the Palestinian leader's assassination, he would not think for a moment that on the ensuing Sunday the same comment would be made by the new Secretary-General of the Palestinian organization, Ramadan 'Abddallah al-Shallah, over Rabin's death.

Furthermore, Rabin who since 1948 has been incessantly engaged in suppression, assassination, annihilation, and displacement of innocent people in the land of the prophets so as to consolidate the al-Quds [Jerusalem] usurper regime, and while holding different executive positions, has always been set on exterminating and uprooting the defenseless Palestinian Muslims and transferring more Jewish migrants to replace those Palestinians expelled from their homes, might never have imagined that his role would be done away with by shots fired by a fellow Jew.

It was the will of Providence to take revenge on Rabin which was appeared in the form of an action by a Jewish youth in Israel, and not in a foreign country.

Thus, the assassination was destined to be the most bitter to the usurper Zionists and the most pleasant to the Palestinian combatants. In other words, even if the Palestinians had done their best to execute the Zionist prime minister, they could not have achieved better results than what was pre-ordained by the Almighty.

The assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin should draw the attention of the leaders of world Zionism to the fact that the pioneers and standard bears of the occupation of Palestinian territories have left the arena one after another and, consequently, the primary drive to establish a Jewish state through the annexation of Palestinian land has been much weakened.

On the contrary, the oppressed Palestinian generation, whose parents were expelled from their motherland and were born in refugee camps, are forcefully entering the scene of struggle against the Zionist occupier regime. The new Palestinian generation are out to regain their lost territories and retrieve their rights, putting an end to half a century of grief, homelessness, and oppression.

'Separation of Ranks' After Rabin Viewed

NC1111082595 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Nov 95 pp 1, 10

[Editorial: "The Separation of Ranks"]

[FBIS Translated Text] An analysis of reactions by countries and nations to incidents such as the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin, the bullying and bloodthirsty Zionist, bring to light certain important realities that are

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

extremely didactic. But such analyses do not only act as a lesson. They also act as a window which helps us to understand human behavior and can clarify what the future holds.

The news of the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin, the bloodthirsty prime minister of the Zionist regime, sparked a wave of joy throughout the world of Islam. In Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, and Syria—which are the front line—people took to the streets and celebrated. Great celebrations by the people in these countries continue and have extended to include Muslims in other parts of the world as well. And all these manifest the strong support the Palestinian movement enjoys among nations.

Apart from some Islamic governments, and namely the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran which expressed its satisfaction over the slaying of Rabin, other governments expressed their grief in one way or another. Some governments expressed their regrets, while others declared a mourning. Others even sent their leaders to the funeral service and thus expressed their support and concordance with the Zionist regime.

This dichotomy of stands speaks of the separation of the ranks of nations and of governments, with all of the Muslim nations constituting one rank and most of the governments the other. And all these clearly show how governments are in a confrontation with their nations. Even though this is a bitter fact, it is extremely didactic. But this dichotomy does not limit itself to the world of Islam. Freedom-loving people throughout the world are happy over the slaying of this bloodthirsty Zionist, although their governments have declared public mourning or have expressed their grief.

The leadership crisis in the world today is a great adversity which has come to light with this separation of ranks. This bitter truth shows that in most parts of the world those who are in power are working completely contrary to their people's will. And this incident proved that King Husayn, Mubarak, and 'Arafat are not alone in their separation from the ranks of their people but that this separation goes even further to include many other nations and governments.

In this confrontation, there is no doubt that the nations are right. Therefore, the future is very clear. The sword cannot rule forever. Nations have awakened. This spectacular separation of ranks shows that despite the propaganda hue and cry by the united front of Zionism and arrogance, this separation is growing more and more each day. And it is this awakening that paves the way for an uprising and will, in turn, pave the way for the victory of justice on the side of the nations. This victory will ensure two things— the awakening of the nations and God's will; that is, the same will that was manifested in the assassination of bloodthirsty Yitzhaq Rabin by the hands of a Jew.

This will of God has been on the side of the Palestinian nation since the time it decided to lean on Islam and rise to confront the usurpers of Palestine. The countdown to the end of the wretched life of the Zionist regime has started; and God's power is above all other powers.

Rafsanjani's Remarks Cause Islamic Seminar Delay

Remarks on Rabin Force Postponement

LD1111210995 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel has announced that the European Islamic World Conference, which was scheduled to be held in Bonn, Germany, has been postponed.

Following Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's remarks, which described the assassination of the Zionist regime's Premier Yitzhaq Rabin by a Jew as divine revenge, the German parliament has called on the government to cancel the invitation of Iran's Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati to participate in the conference.

In a statement, Kinkel said the conference entitled Europe and the World of Islam will be postponed since the Iranian foreign minister will not be a participant. Kinkel added he still favors holding the conference and reiterated the significance of talks with the Islamic world.

Radio Views Suspension of Forum

LD1111135995 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1130 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Europe-Islam Conference, due to be held next week on November 15th and 16th in Bonn, has been suspended. German Foreign Minister Kinkel on Friday November 10th declared that the conference is being suspended because of the pressure exerted by some opposition wings in the German parliament, who voted against the holding of the conference. The foreign ministers of Islamic countries, including Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Pakistan, and Bosnia, had been invited to attend the conference to exchange views in a joint meeting with 300 personalities from across the world.

From the viewpoint of Mr. Kinkel, holding of the Bonn conference is significant because it can bring the two Islamic and Christian cultures close to each other and help

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

remove existing misunderstandings among some European countries with regard to Islam. However, decision of the opposition wing in the German parliament has reconfirmed that those who close their eyes on realities prefer such gatherings not to be held because they fear there might be no longer any excuse and opportunity for leveling accusations in the direct and constructive talks. This is something which the United States and global Zionism desire.

There is no doubt that the opponents of Islam consider the Islamic Republic of Iran to be the main obstacle in the way of their illegitimate goals. The message of the Islamic revolution today is not confined to the borders of Iran. The blessed impacts of the Islamic revolution's message are visible and wherever there is talk of oppression and resistance against it, and Islamic Iran is the flag-bearer of struggle against oppression and global hegemony. Such a struggle, however, does not mean separation of nations and divine religions, therefore, for Europe to make a realistic evaluation of Islamic movements, and not confusing often incorrect pictures presented in the name of Islam, the conference is of great significance.

The Bonn conference, from the viewpoint of Germany, was an effort made to follow such a goal. Suspension of this gathering for an indefinite period of time is in fact a policy aimed to present Islam as an illusory enemy and substitute for communism, a policy which is based on illusion and lie. Islam, however, does not think of anything but unity and truth, as stated in the holy Koran, where it says: Oh followers of the book, come to an equitable proposition between us and you, that we shall not serve any but Allah, and that we shall not associate [word indistinct] with Him."

Radio Appreciates German Postponement

LD1211143195 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1050 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Relations between governments and nations are, just like a living entity, constantly threatened by dangers and issues and only vigilance and a responsible approach can keep them safe from probable harm. Undoubtedly within a world where diverse cultures, sensibilities, and beliefs become manifest with more prominence within the framework of bilateral ties and reciprocal affiliations, there is a need for reciprocal respect and avoiding double-standards. In bilateral and multilateral ties, governments, while recognizing the diversity of cultures, views and their attendant obligations, should avoid imposing their own views. Maybe it is because of such subtleties that diplomacy has been described as the art of establishing and safeguarding good relations between nations. Hence, if an act or stance which disregards those principles is not attended to properly and in time, in all likelihood its consequences may have adverse effects on relations between nations.

In the past few days some of the German parliamentary members have reacted to what has been described as dissatisfaction over Iran's stance concerning the killing of the Zionist regime's premier, Yitzhaq Rabin, and have demanded that the Islamic Republic of Iran not be invited to the Islam and Europe Conference. The conference was supposed to have convened in Germany within the next few days. The German Foreign Ministry, in practice and in a responsible move, essentially suspended the conference at this juncture and postponed it, an act which indicates the recognition of the sensibilities and interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran. If continued, such acts can strengthen and deepen relations between Tehran and Bonn.

Iran, as a large and capable country in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf coast, and Germany, as a country which determines events and which is powerful in the European Union, have always enjoyed stable political and economic relations, so that, from the economic point of view, Germany is one of Iran's main trading partners. The Islamic Republic of Iran, beside securing its own requirements from Germany, has brought about the opportunity for the transit of German goods and services to the Central Asian republics.

It can, therefore, be said that there are temporary problems in relations between all countries and the likely problem in relations between Iran and Germany is nothing but a momentary one in relations between two great countries.

Invitation Said Still 'Valid'

LD1111205495 Tehran IRIB Television Third Program Network in English 1916 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Germany's foreign minister has said that the Europe and World of Islam Conference has been delayed.

Bonn delayed holding the conference after the Iranian president, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani called the killing of the Zionist premier, Yitzhaq Rabin, divine revenge.

Meanwhile, the German parliament has asked the [German] government to withdraw its invitation to Iran's Foreign Minister Mr. Velayati to attend the gathering.

The German Foreign Ministry has issued a statement saying that the invitation will remain valid.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

'Thousands' Demonstrate Against Azerbaijan's Referendum

NC1111201795 Paris AFP in English 1414 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Tehran, Nov 11 (AFP)—Tens of thousands of people held a demonstration in northwestern Iran to protest what they called "anti-Islamic" changes to be made in Azerbaijan's constitution, newspapers reported here Saturday [11 November].

The protesters marched after the Muslim Friday prayers in Tabriz, the main town in Iran's East Azerbaijan province, and denounced the "anti-religious and anti-Islamic changes made in a draft law" for Azerbaijan's new constitution.

The conservative RESALAT daily said the former Soviet republic had failed to mention Islam as the country's national religion in the draft and called for separation of state from religion.

"The move is an American plot in its fight against Islam and is more dangerous than having a secular government," prayer leader, Ayatollah Mohsen Mojtahed-Shabestari, told the crowd.

The demonstrators called on Iran in a resolution to "reconsider relations with Azerbaijan if the draft is voted into law.

Azerbaijan is to hold Sunday general elections and a referendum on a new constitution strengthening the powers of President Heydar Aliyev. [passage omitted]

Yazdi Assails Critics of Clergy in Friday Sermon

LD1011113495 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Ayatollah Yazdi, the acting Friday prayer leader of Tehran [and head of the judiciary], in his sermons today expressed congratulations on the blessed birthday of Her Holiness Fatimah [the Prophet's daughter], peace be upon her.

He referred to some highlights of the remarks by the eminent leader last week [1 November] regarding ways of identifying and analyzing the political order dominating the world of today and comparing it with the Islamic political system of our country.

He then set out to describe the status of the clergy in the Islamic revolution. He said: If under the present conditions, some people use their tongues and pens against the clergy and put a question mark under the rule of the Velayat-e Faqih [vice-regency/custodianship of the jurisconsult], they are, in fact, strengthening the hands of the enemy. It is only the world hegemonic powers, led by America, who will feel happy about the actions of these people.

The acting Friday prayer leader of Tehran then said that the assassination of Rabin by a Jew showed the extent of the internal problems and the vulnerability of the Zionist regime.

In another part of his remarks, Ayatollah Yazdi called on the international court in The Hague to start the prosecution of Serb war criminals without any hesitation. He, moreover, criticized America for preventing the special international court from having access to documents showing the crimes of the Serbs against the Muslims in Zepa and Srebrenica.

Further on Yazdi Friday Sermon

LD1011144895 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1154 GMT 10 Nov 95

[Second Friday sermon by Judiciary Head Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi at Tehran University on 10 November — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

The Islamic system is based on spirituality, on God's religion and commands, on human virtues, on divine instructions. From the top, that is the leader, right down to the lowest official in this system, and the people who come under the jurisdiction of this system, they all look toward those virtues, those benefits, those divine commands. Whenever an offense takes place, people complain that it does not conform to Islam, to the Koran; that it is contrary to the rules, and ask questions like why are you not careful? The people, the various departments, the Majles, the government, the judiciary, they all act on the basis of God's commands and God's religion.

Where does the Islamic system come from? From whom were these Islamic bases taken? From God, by the Prophet, by the imams, and in the period of [Imam Mahdi's] absence by the clergy. Naturally, the system relies on God's religion, and in our time, God's religion comes through the clergy. And naturally, it is the clergy who show the way, are the pathfinders, the guides. And as long as that connection is maintained and safeguarded, the system, naturally, enjoys the support of the people, and the people believe in God's religion, and the people and the officials, hand in hand, work for the advancement of God's religion in the country and in the world, and for the prosperity of mankind in both worlds. [crowd chants "God is great," "Khamene'i is the leader"]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Well, understanding the outcome of this does not need complicated reasoning. The outcome of this is very clear, just as his eminence [Khamene'i] has said: If under these circumstances certain people, through words, writings or deeds, enter the arena and take a stance against the clergy, question the rule of velayat-e faqih [guardianship of the supreme jurisconsult] or create a doubt in the people's minds concerning the type of government and leadership — does this do anything except, naturally, make the hegemonic world system headed by the United States and others happy? The outcome is very clear. It does not need logic.

Since the issue is as clear as this, how can certain people engage in certain debates which even [theological] schools cannot sort out? And then they talk about this in newspapers and magazines; in meetings or around a table with one or two people. It is easy to question everything, very easy, it is not a big deal either. If there is a theological debate, its rightful place is among the ulema, in theological centers, among those who can answer you in a forthright manner.

If, however, the reason...[pauses]... As I have pointed out, I can't believe what their aim is. In some cases, we who are more diligent can believe their aim because we study the minute details of the issue, and we know what their aim is and where they are coming from. Some of them speak through intermediaries. God willing, they are speaking out of their ignorance or because they don't know their intermediaries. But this is what they are after: they want to question the Islamic system from any angle so that the question creates a doubt about this celestial, divine system under the supervision of the clergy. And this, in reality, is grist to the enemy's mill.

God willing, they are saying these things because they are not paying attention. I imagine that after his [Khamene'i's] repeated warning, those who know they have done wrong will put their houses in order.

On 13 Aban this year [4 November; anniversary of occupation of U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1979], our people staged magnificent rallies all over country and chanted slogans against global arrogance and in particular against the United States. One must say that this was once again a practical response to the empty accusations made by the enemies of Islam and the revolution. This showed them how our people think and what kind of relation they have with their political system and what kind of political outlook they possess. This response was provided for the umpteenth time. [passage omitted]

Please allow me, we have very little time. Perhaps you can express your opinion at another time. Another incident which people all over the world came to know about was Rabin's death. We had those who took part in his funeral uttering some abject remarks [on the one hand], and celebrations and felicitation on the other. [passage omitted]

He [Rabin] was a member of a well-known terrorist organization. He ordered the assassination of many people, he was responsible for the homelessness of a great number of Palestinians and Muslims, he had a black dossier that history knows well and one should in fact say that he was a terrorist murderer.

Fortunately his assassin at the first [court] session admitted that he was alone in the assassination of Rabin and nobody had helped him but God. This is very interesting. This means that the Zionist regime can be infiltrated from within and it is not indestructible and invincible. This means there are people within [Israel] who believe in the Jewish faith and do not accept Rabin and those similar to him and think that they should be assassinated. Despite the propaganda spread all over the world that the Zionist regime is an indestructible force, we should know that this is not true and a faithful Jew comes to the court and says that God helped him and he was alone in his mission. [passage omitted]

When I read the remarks of Mr. Clinton, who headed those who made similar remarks [at Rabin's funeral], I asked myself: What do the people of the United States — the people of a huge country like the United States that has made so much progress and possesses so much power — think when they hear that during Rabin's funeral their president said that he was proud because once he had made a knot in Rabin's necktie? What do they understand from this? Do the people of the United States love their president more when they hear this, or do they realize that their presidential elections are influenced by the Zionist lobby which has a great deal of influence in the United States? If you ponder on the matter you find out that if the Zionist lobby is so influential in the United States that it can make decisions on the country's elections and can force the president to make such an abject remark because he is so dependent on the Zionists, then what happens to a future U.S. government? What about a government which is dependent on a Zionist lobby? What does that dependency mean for the country's power? [passage omitted]

Do the U.S. people, who claim to enjoy democracy and be free, accept that a Zionist Jewish lobby can be so influential that it can make decisions on their presidential elections? Naturally, they analyze such matters, and they will come to hate such remarks. I do not understand how Mr. Clinton has not calculated an issue like that.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Worse than this is the gentleman who went [to Rabin's funeral] from an Arab, Islamic country. Please pay attention to this point. When I read about him, I really thought: This chap doesn't think about his people. The Muslims of an Islamic country, a country in which the vast majority of people are Muslims, when they hear their leader refer to Mr. Rabin as his father, what do you think this does to Muslims? How shameful! The leader of an Islamic country refers to a Jewish, Zionist, murderer, terrorist as his father! This is the extent to which he disregards his people, he doesn't care about them. I am sure when the Muslims of that country hear this they will begin to hate their leader immensely. The relationship between the people and their leader will get very bad.

Why aren't they [Arab leaders who went to Rabin's funeral] thinking about what they are saying? Why are they so lost? And worst of all is Mr. 'Arafat who was not even given permission to attend the funeral ceremony. They [Israeli authorities] referred to him officially as an undesirable element, an undesirable element. Well, he had already been recognized as an undesirable element by the world of Islam because of his compromise and because of trampling on the rights of Palestinian Muslims. It is obvious he is an undesirable element, to the extent that even they call him undesirable. [crowd chants]

The last sentence that I should say here is that the rulers must learn a lesson from this incident. [passage omitted] There are numerous sources for these lessons; why not learn from them? Why do you distance yourself from the people?

In this whole affair, did you ever see a nation expressing happiness? [sentence as heard] All Muslim nations expressed happiness about this, but some gentlemen, a number of whom I mentioned as examples, expressed regret. But which popular forum expressed regret?

The conclusion is that all the states which are divorced from their people and need to rely on force and coercion, will one day follow the same fate. Just like our country which fell under the rule of a despot. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, I must also say something brief about the prosecutor at the court in The Hague, dealing with the case of the Serbs' war crimes. He has said that if the case is to be pursued, then the peace treaty must enshrine clauses about extradition of criminals. You are also aware of the new development in which the U.S. officials are not prepared to present the court with documents and photographs compiled by international bodies, showing all the crimes and atrocities of the Serbs in Zepa and Srebrenica; crimes such as rape, mass murder, and the killing of prisoners, whose mass graves have been discovered.

This is what the prosecutor at the court says. This development proves what we have always said. That is to say that an international criminal court should be convened which has full legal authority and the right to summon, extradite, and prosecute the accused, and also is bestowed with the power to obtain evidences and documents even from reluctant parties. Sooner or later, such a court will be formed, and the present court is just a step toward that end.

Second, we would like to tell the prosecutor that an extradition treaty is for cases where a criminal flees the country where the crime has taken place and goes to a second country where his crime is either not unlawful, or if it is, then the punishment applicable is comparatively lighter. In this case, the second country will not extradite the criminal unless a treaty exists between the two countries. The above situation has no relevance whatsoever to a special court formed on the basis of the UN's ratification. Such a court is not based on the treaty. The Serb criminals must definitely be put to trial, without having to wait for the extradition of criminals. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

Rowhani Speaks on Parties, Media, Satellites

LD0611173295 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Majles Deputy Speaker Hasan Rowhani, in an interview this morning with a number of German media correspondents, referred to the good relations which at present exist between the nations and governments of Iran and Germany. He said the mass media could play an imporant role in bringing the two nations closer.

He said the domination of the Americans and the Zionists over the bulk of the world's mass media is responsible for portraying a false image of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Western people. He considers this an act of great treason against relations between the nations of the world.

In response to a question about the duties and responsibilities of the Majles, Mr. Rowhani stressed that the Constitution envisages a great deal of authority for the Majles. He said: It is only the Majles which is in charge of legislation on all affairs of the country and also supervision on the implementation of laws. In addition, all the ministers need the Majles' vote of confidence before assuming their posts.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The Majles deputy speaker, in reply to a question on the activities of political parties in the Islamic Republic of Iran, stressed the freedom of political parties and organizations who engage in activities within the framework of the Constitution.

On the ban imposed on the use of satellite dishes, Mr. Rowhani said: In today's world, the arrogant countries employ the satellite networks as an instrument against the independent cultures of the third world nations. We are not the only ones concerned about this issue, as such a concern also exists in some Western countries.

Nation's Solar Energy Said Greater Than Oil, Gas

LD0711065695 Tehran IRNA in English 0620 GMT 7 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Shahryar, Tehran Prov., Nov. 7, IRNA — The extent of solar energy received by Iran is 8 times more than its total oil and gas reserves, a senior energy official said here on Monday [6 November]. The deputy minister of culture and higher education in technology affairs, Seyyed Ahmad Mo'tamedi, further stated that total oil and gas reserves in Iran are equivalent to some 100 billion barrels of oil and 600 trillion cubic feet of gas.

The official made the remarks at the seminar dubbed the International Solar Energy Conference and Islamic States, the first of its kind and which is currently ongoing in Shahryar.

The total energy received by Iran amounts yearly to around 10,827 kilo-joules, or 1,000 times the total consumption and export of energy in the country, Mo'tamedi added. By utilizing one percent of the country's land area, Iran's energy needs can be met through the utilization of solar energy.

The secretary of the conference, Mohammad Mahdi Ghaffari, reported that some 143 articles have so far been received by the secretariat, 66 of which came from Iran. He divulged that 62 articles have been accepted by a screening board, out of which 37 were initiated by the Islamic Republic. Twelve Islamic states attended the meet, which started on Monday, November 6.

Nuclear Energy Official Comments on Improvements

LD0711120395 Tehran IRNA in English 1149 GMT 7 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 7, IRNA — The head of the nuclear medical and agricultural research center of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, Hoseyn Afarideh, reported that the utilization of nuclear technology in the country has resulted in remarkable achievements in the agricultural and medical fields.

Speaking in a recent interview with the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA), the official noted that the growth in the production of wheat, cotton, rice, saffron and soya beans, as well as the storing of foodstuff were among the successful applications of nuclear techniques in the field of agriculture.

With regard to the medical sector, Afarideh added that nuclear techniques enabled the country to produce a number of the so-called radio pharmaceuticals which, in turn, cut Iran's dependency in this field. He noted that the Islamic republic currently exports certain types of radio medications to the regional countries.

Referring to the organization's cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on a project applying nuclear techniques with the help of accelerators, the official said that this program has been a success and the IAEA chose Iran as a partner due to the country's scientific potentials in this area.

As for the training of nuclear experts in Iran, he reported that basic steps have been initiated in cooperation with the industrial university of Amir Kabir.

Regarding U.S. allegations about Iran having access to atomic weapons, Afarideh remarked that U.S. officials were alarmed by Iran's self-sufficiency and its growth in the field of nuclear energy, hence Washington tried to block Tehran's way in this connection by disturbing world public opinion.

He stressed that Iran used nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and has always supported the idea of a Middle East free of nuclear weapons.

Some 50 experts both from Iran's Atomic Energy Organization and those from foreign countries are currently participating in the West and Central Asian workshop, currently being held in the provincial city of Karaj, 35 km west of the capital city.

Issues related to the use of nuclear techniques in different fields are among the topics highlighted in the said meeting.

The workshop will continue its work till the end of this week.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Pakistan

'Statement' Issued After Bhutto's Visit to Iran

BK0911114195 Islamabad THE NATION in English 9 Nov 95 p 1,13

["Text" of joint press statement issued at the end of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's visit to Iran, in Tehran and Islamabad on 8 November]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] At the invitation of H.E. Hojat-ul-Islam val-Moslemin Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan paid an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran from 6th to 8th November 1995.

2. The Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising Ministers, Parliamentarians and senior officials. During their stay in Iran, Prime Minister Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and her entourage were accorded a warm and cordial welcome, characteristic of the close brotherly relations existing between the two fraternal countries.

3. The Prime Minister of Pakistan and her accompanying entourage visited the holy city of Mashhad and paid homage at the shrine of Hazrat Imam Reza (A.S.). They also visited the mausoleum of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution and the Founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran Imam Khomeyni to pay their respects.

4. During her visit Prime Minister Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto met with the Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) H.E. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The Prime Minister was also accorded the unique honour of addressing the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

5. The President and the Prime Minister underscored the historical and religious bonds between the two countries which served as a solid foundation for the further strengthening and expansion of bilateral as well as multilateral cooperation.

6. They exchanged views on the entire spectrum of bilateral relations. They also discussed regional developments and international issues of common concern. The discussions were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, marked by complete understanding and commonality of views.

7. The two sides noted with satisfaction the increase in bilateral trade volume during 1994-95 and stressed the need for further consolidating this positive trend. In the field of economic cooperation, they expressed their appreciation for the speed with which the major bilateral economic projects such as the oil refinery and gas pipeline were moving forward. They also noted the progress made on the bulldozers sugar/cement plants deal and felt that their early finalisation would give a major boost to industrial collaboration between the two countries.

Both sides stressed the need for promotion of cooperation between the private sectors, especially the chambers of commerce and industries of the two countries.

8. During the visit the following documents were signed: -Agreement on Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments. -Agreement on the Maritime Commercial Navigation. -Agreement on the Establishment of Joint Business Council (JBC). -MOU for the review of the implementation of the Joint economic Commission.

9. Both sides welcomed an increase in the exchange of delegations at the level of Heads of States/Government, officials as well as experts between the two countries with a view to further deepen the bilateral relations.

10. The President and the Prime Minister reiterated their resolve to eliminate the trafficking and smuggling of narcotics across the Pak-Iran border and towards this end, agreed to intensify cooperation and devise effective measures. They also decided that during the forthcoming visit of the interior minister of Iran to Pakistan, these issues should be considered as well as other matters of mutual interest.

11. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to the goals and objectives of ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization]. They recalled with satisfaction the outcome of the historic Third ECO Summit, held in Islamabad in March 1995, leading to the signing of agreements for the establishment of several ECO institutions. Noting the importance of these institutions for ECO to function as an effective instrument of regional cooperation, they stressed the need for their early establishment. In this context, they underlined the need for the member-states to complete the ratification procedures as soon as possible. They expressed the hope that this process would be completed before the Fourth ECO Summit to be held in Asghabad in April 1996.

12. Both sides stressed the importance of bilateral cooperation in bolstering mutually beneficial trade and economic links with Central Asian states as well as the expansion of regional economic cooperation as a major element contributing to regional peace and stability.

13. The regional situation constituted a major topic in the talks between the two sides. They stressed the importance of preservation of peace and tranquility in the Indian Ocean as well as the Persian Gulf by the regional states. Both sides noted that all major problems

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and differences in the region must be peacefully settled by the regional states for the maintenance of peace and stability.

14. Both sides expressed their commitment to a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem, which would enable the Palestinians to establish their own independent state. While Supporting the legitimate aspirations of the people of Palestine for the liberation of their homelands they called for the vacation of all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories including al-Quds al-Sharif.

15. Both sides expressed their concern over the continuation of the internal conflict in Afghanistan and called for a just and equitable political settlement in accordance with the aspirations of the Afghan muslim people. They also agreed to persuade the warring factions in Afghanistan to avoid further bloodshed so that the people of Afghanistan could devote themselves to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of their country. The two sides also agreed to continue consultations on the situation obtaining in Afghanistan.

16. The two sides discussed the [passage indistinct] and condemned the ethnic cleansing, genocide and massive human rights violations to which the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina have been subjected. They called for the trial and punishment of all those found guilty of serious crimes in Bosnia-Herzegovina. They further called for a complete restoration of peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina and stressed that any settlement to be just and durable must guarantee the territorial integrity, political independence and sovereignty of Bosnia-Herzegovina. They considered as unjust and illegal the UN arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina and demanded its lifting to enable the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina to exercise their inherent right of self defence. Both sides while reiterating the continuation of their relief aid to the people of Bosnia- Herzegovina, called for the more active participation of Islamic countries in peacetime developments as well as reconstruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

17. On Kashmir, the two sides exchanged views and concluded that the oppression to which the people of Kashmir were subjected remained a source of tension in the region. The two sides reviewed the latest developments in the movement for self-determination by the people of Kashmir and realisation of their wishes. They underlined the importance of finding a solution to the Kashmir problem in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's mediation efforts were welcomed by Prime Minister Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto.

18. The two sides deplored the aggression committed against the Republic of Azerbaijan, the occupation of Azeri territories and the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Azeri people and emphasised that these steps be reversed. While expressing their satisfaction on the establishment of a ceasefire between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Armenia, they called upon the international community to be forthcoming in providing assistance for the relief and rehabilitation of Azeri refugees.

19. Both sides noted with satisfaction the process of normalisation taking place in Tajikistan. They reaffirmed that the inter-Tajik dialogue was the only means of reaching a peaceful accord. Both sides while emphasising the necessity of expediting the holding of the fifth round of inter-Tajik talks expressed their support for the UN peace efforts, as well as of other concerned parties, necessary for the completion of the negotiating process. The two sides underscored the importance of national reconciliation in Tajikistan and agreed to coordinate their efforts in this regard. They also stressed the importance of efforts by the observer states concerned with the crisis in Tajikistan to accelerate the pace of talks.

20. Both sides called for reforms of the Security Council and in this context emphasized the importance of expansion in the membership of the Council based on the principles of "sovereign equality of states" and "equitable geographic distribution" of seats. They also emphasized that such an expansion should not lead to the perpetuation of existing anomalies and creation of new centers of privilege. They recalled in this context, the relevant paragraphs of the NAM [Non-Aligned Movement] Summit Communique issued at Cartagena recently.

21. They two sides reaffirmed their commitments aimed at total elimination of nuclear arsenals and other weapons of mass destruction and the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime at the global and regional levels. They called for intensifying of international efforts to facilitate the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. They emphasized the need for enhancing the security of non-nuclear weapons states against the use of threat of use of nuclear weapons and called for the establishment of nuclear-free-zones in various parts of the world including the Middle East and South Asia.

22. Both sides discussed and exchanged views on the role of the Islamic Conference Organisation in international development. They stressed the need for further consultation and cooperation among Islamic countries to confront the cultural and political onslaught against the Islamic World.

23. The Prime Minister of Pakistan expressed her profound gratitude for the warm and generous hospi-

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

tality extended by the President Hojjatoleslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, The Government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran during her visit.

24. The Prime Minister, Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto extended an invitation to President His Excellency Hojjatoleslam Akbar Hashemi- Rafsanjani to visit Pakistan in 1996. The invitation was cordially accepted. The dates for the visit would be finalised through diplomatic channels.

U.S. Not To Receive Report on Bhutto's Iran Visit

BK1311075795 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 13 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Bir Mariana Baabar]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad — The foreign office says it will not provide US administration any report about Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's recently concluded visit to Iran.

"The US will make its own assessments from its own sources. We will not provide them any information", foreign office spokesman said while responding to a news story which spoke of a report awaited by the State Department from Islamabad giving details of this visit.

The official said the government was aware of US concern and attention it was paying to Prime Minister Bhutto's visit. "We are also aware of Iran's assessment of this. In the past and today, Pakistan has relations with those countries who have strained relations", the official added.

Though there is a strong and hawkish lobby in Washington would like to see Iran being continuously isolated, reports speak about several clandestine meetings between the two countries. These reports do not rule out speculation that Pakistani Prime Minister brought about the issue with senior officials while in Tehran.

"The United States needs Iran if only to keep Iraq at bay. Iran would of course like an easy access to billions of dollars frozen in bank accounts all over America after US embassy was attacked during Islamic Revolution", comments a political analyst. It is because of Washington's policy in the past to strangulate Tehran economically, he added. [sentence as published] Reports by Iranian politicians say, "One reason US is backing (?Taleban) inside Afghanistan is because it wants to use Afghanistan as a trade route to Central Asian countries instead of Iran".

Recently, Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ali volunteered to play a mediatory role between Tehran and Washington, an offer which was frowned upon in Pakistan but found no comment from Tehran.

Iranian Official Emphasizes Trade, Cooperation

BK1011023695 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Iranian Deputy Commerce Minister Asghar Mohammad Nahavandian has said that his country wants to cross the $1 billion mark in annual trade with Pakistan. In an interview in Lahore, he said Iran supports regional and economic cooperation; this is why Iran has been improving cooperation with Pakistan and other Asian countries. He believes that Iran and Pakistan, the two important members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, must cut their tariffs on 10 commodities by 10 percent. This would help increase trade between them.

Asghar Mohammad Nahavandian said Iran will link Pakistan with the West through its rail and highway network to improve regional cooperation.

Minister's Address on Defense, Kashmir Reported

BK0211134895 Islamabad THE NATION in English 2 Nov 95 pp 1, 4

[Report by Ayesha Haroon]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lahore — The Government is not interested in five-year old planes and what is of more importance than the F-16s or the money Pakistan has paid for them is that Pakistan's position has been vindicated and the US administration's acceptance that it was wrong and Pakistan was right, said Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in a lecture at Kinnaird College, on Wednesday [1 November]. He said the government wants to modernise the country's defence system with the latest arms and other equipment.

Speaking at the occasion, the Minister said that when the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] 'Government came' [as published] in power Pakistan was about to be declared a terrorist state and had been given an image of a rogue state engaged in developing nuclear weapons clandestine. He said that although two years ago the situation of the country's foreign policy was bleak and dismal the Government has revitalised it to a point where the country is no longer on the Terrorist Watch List of the US, Illegal Immigration has been halted, serious and effective steps have been taken to control drug-trafficking and our international image has immensely improved. It is no more of a rogue state, he emphasized.

He said the present Government has internationalised the Kashmir issue which previously had only been paid lip-service to. However, he appreciated the support of

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the Opposition together with that of the PM [Prime Minister], the Foreign Ministry, media, US administration, Congressional leaders and the US media in helping pave way for the Brown Amendment.

He rejected the allegations that the Government had sold Pakistan's interests to the United States. He said, "No government sells the interests of its nation, least of all this government." He also said that we should not see the Americans as enemies of Muslims, for if it were so the US would not have supported the case of Bosnian Muslims and helped in resolving the Middle East problem. He said that we should not fall in a trap laid down by some misguided people in Pakistan who believe that there is a clash between the Muslim and the Christian worlds.

Sardar Asif said that the present Government had brought the Kashmir issues from the back burners to the centre stage of intentional fora. And it is because of this highlighting of the Kahsmir cause that forced Indian Government to allow the Kashmiri leaders to travel abroad, where they have showed the world that they are not 'terrorists' but are fighting for their right to self- determination. He said it was a misconception that Pakistan has not been able to muster enough support within the OIC [Organization of the Islamic Conference] over the Kashmir issue. The Minister said that because of his falling fortunes within the country the Indian Prime Minister needs to appear tough towards Pakistan over the Kashmir issue. He said that the day the Indian leaders rise from their petty Hindu prejudices and chauvinism, the process of resolving the problems between Pakistan and India will start.

The Foreign Minister said that due to the policies of the present Government Pakistan would be known as a modern, moderate Muslim state with democratic principle, acting as a bridge between Islam and Christianity, East and West, industrial democracies and the developing world.

Discussing the Afghan Jehad the Foreign Minister said the western world had used Pakistan for a pittance in order to give eminence to a certain camp in the west. He was of the opinion that Pakistan could have extracted a much higher price as the international stakes in Afghanistan were very high. He said that both Peshawar and Islamabad Accords signed under the previous regime were a complete disaster for Pakistan and Afghanistan as they exacerbated the differences between various Afghan groups. He said it was because of such policies that after 14 years of helping Afghanistan, "we ended up with a government headed by Rabbani which not only is attacking other Afghan groups but is also sitting in the lap of India.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs said that as the Government has no direct enmity against Israel, it would only recognise Israel once the entire Middle East problem is solved. He said Pakistan's relations with China remain very strong despite China's normalisation of relations with India.

Afterwards the Minister answered questions of the students. Later the principal of the college and the senior students thanked the Minister for his lecture and taking out time to address the students.

APP adds: The Minister said that 'terrorism' in Karachi has been contained and done it is accepted that terrorism cannot pay complete peace will be restored in Sindh.

He said dialogues with Altaf Group are underway but, had added, that Government will not negotiate when a gun is pointed at its temple. On a question about the Indian propaganda against Pakistan to halt its carpet exports, he said India launched propaganda on the issues of child labour and minorities which was tackled by the Government through documents and inviting the international media to visit Pakistan and see themselves the state of child labour and minorities in Pakistan.

To another query about the Afghan issue, he said Pakistan is committed to non-interference policy. He said that Muslims have no enmity with the Jews if they liberate "Baitul Maqadas" and settle all other allied issues with the Muslims.

He said the main target of the foreign policy is to make India to accept the right of Kashmiris, strengthen ties with Central Asean States for strong economic and regional cooperation, further strengthening of Pakistan's friendship with the Arab World and develop the image of the country as moderate, peace-loving Islamic country.

Leghari Speaks to CHOGM, Addresses India 'Excesses'

BK1111101095 Islamabad THE NATION in English 11 Nov 95 p 1, 4

[Report by Sarmad Bashir]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Auckland (New Zealand)—[passage omitted] Speaking in the working session of the Commonwealth Heads of State and Government Meeting (CHOGM) President Leghari gave a detailed account of Indian excesses in the Occupied Valley and said that Kashmiris are facing all forms of brutalities "while their only fault is that they are fighting for their right of self determination."

Calling upon India to end its atrocities in Held Kashmir, the President appealed to the Commonwealth Secretary

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

General to use his good offices "to help resolve the longstanding dispute in Kashmir".

Because of the non-resolution of the Kashmir dispute, he said, "the people of Kashmir, Pakistan and India are suffering as, they have become hostage to the Kashmir dispute".

He urged India to spare the people of Kashmir who are sacrificing their lives to attain their basic right to self determination.

The President asked India to start "a constructive dialogue with Pakistan in order to settle the Kashmir dispute".

Referring to the massive arms and missile build-up by India, he said, in fact, it is non-resolution of the Kashmir problem that has pushed India to introduce the factor of arms race in the Sub-Continent".

He said, Pakistan was neither responsible nor it could afford the arms race in the area. The development endangered the security and peace of South Asia.

He said, Pakistan believes in the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and has already proposed nuclear-free zone in South Asia. He said, it was India who was not agreeing to this proposal of Pakistan, which incidently is approved every year by the UN General Assembly.

Referring to the speech of the New Zealand Prime Minister, in which he had vehemently opposed the spread of nuclear weapons and their testing, President Leghari said, "Pakistan also endorses the anti-nuclear policy and supports a comprehensive test-ban treaty". In this context, he mentioned the proposals Pakistan has been putting forward from time to time to stop proliferation of nuclear weapons.

He urged the Commonwealth to particularly concentrate on efforts which could eliminate regional conflicts and ensure economic prosperity of all the member states. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, President Farooq Ahmed Leghari held bi-lateral talks with President Nelson Mandela of South Africa here on Friday [10 November].

Matters of bilateral, regional and global interest were discussed.

President Leghari told him of the ongoing atrocities and human rights violations in Occupied Kashmir against innocent Kashmiri people.

A large number of Kashmiri people representing various organisations staged a peaceful demonstration in front of the building where the Commonwealth Heads of State are meeting. They were carrying placards depicting that the Indian democracy was a sham as there people are being persecuted in Occupied Kashmir.

Another demonstration was simultaneously staged by a big crowd of Sikhs in support of Khalistan Movement.

Islamabad on 'Rejection' of Kashmir Election Plan

BK1111162495 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Foreign Office [spokesman] has termed the rejection of polls in the held-valley by India's Election Commission as vindication of Kashmiris' stand on the issue. Talking to APP in Islamabad today, he said Pakistan's stand on the Indian decision to hold elections in held Kashmir was well known. He recalled that the All Parties Hurriyat Conference had categorically rejected the polls plan.

Khan Comments on Rejection of Elections

BK1311011595 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir, has urged the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the United Nations, and democratic countries to play a role in helping to find a just settlement of the Kashmir issue in the light of the Indian Election Commission's decision not to hold elections in occupied Kashmir. Addressing a news conference in Lahore this evening, he said the Indian Election Commission's decision vindicates the Kashmiri people's concrete and unequivocal stand on the Kashmir issue. Nasrullah Khan said the Kashmiri people have repeatedly rejected the Indian decision to hold elections in occupied Kashmir under the Indian Constitution and are demanding the holding of a plebiscite in the occupied valley. Apart from this, various Indian political parties, including the Bharatiya Janata Party, have also rejected the Indian Government's decision to hold elections in occupied Kashmir.

Grenade Reportedly Hits Karachi Police Headquarters

BK1311085195 Hong Kong AFP in English 0841 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KARACHI, Nov 13 (AFP) — The police headquarters in Pakistan's troubled city of Karachi was attacked with rocket propelled grenades Monday [13 November], killing at least one person and injuring 10 others, police said.

Ten rockets were fired at the main headquarters building and police barracks in the southern Ranchore area of the violence- plagued city, a police official said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Sri Lanka

Minister Says War To Continue Until 'Victory'

BK1011124895 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The deputy defense minister, Colonel Anuruddha Ratwatte, has reiterated that the war in the north will be continued until victory is achieved. Receiving donations to National Defense Fund at his ministry yesterday, Colonel Ratwatte said that he pledged to establish peace in the country amidst whatever constraints they have to face. Action will be taken to reestablish the civil administration in the liberated areas. He said that the war was being conducted according to a set plan. He stressed that it was the duty of every citizen who values peace to cooperate wholeheartedly with the government in its bid for peace. All citizens have a great responsibility to do their part in strengthening civil defense.

Colonel Ratwatte explained the importance of selflessly working toward safeguarding the common resources of the country. He said that the activities of the Armed Forces who are resolutely moving forward in this war have vindicated the myth spread by the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists at international level that the forces did not have the strength to control them. The full contribution to the National Defense Fund now stands at 94 million rupees.

Troops Said To Resume 'Massive' Jaffna Offensive

Fighting Resumes After 1-Week Break

BK1011062995 Hong Kong AFP in English 0605 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (AFP) — Government troops on Friday [11 November] resumed a massive campaign in the Tamil rebel stronghold of Jaffna in northern Sri Lanka after a one-week break, military officials said.

"We started advancing at first light," a military spokesman said here. "So far we have not heard anything further from the front." The spokesman gave no further details. Sri Lankan forces launched a major offensive on October 17 in a bid to wrest Jaffna from the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which has governed the sprawling peninsula like a de-facto independent state since 1990.

The military captured the LTTE stronghold of Neerveli on October 30 and continued its drive for nearly three more days before calling a temporary halt, barely 4.5 kilometers (three miles) from Jaffna town, amid heavy rains.

Since then, military officials have been saying that the troops were consolidating their positions for an eventual push towards the Tigers' bastion of Jaffna town.

The offensive resumed a day after President Chandrika Kumaratunga announced she was cancelling her trip to the Commonwealth summit at Auckland, and instead asked Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar to represent Sri Lanka.

Her office said late Thursday that the president, who is commander-in-chief of the armed forces, took the decision "due to the exigencies of the evolving situation (in Sri Lanka) and the need for her continuing presence."

The October 17 offensive, code named Riviresa (Sunshine), triggered an unprecedented exodus of civilians from Jaffna, and Tamil sources say up to half a million people have become refugees.

The refugee crisis has sparked international concern, forcing the Sri Lankan Government to step up relief for the tens of thousands of displaced civilians massing in Jaffna and the neighbouring district of Kilinochchi.

The Tigers, who have vowed to defend Jaffna town to their last man, made no immediate reaction to the latest developments in the campaign, which according to official figures has so far left 260 security personnel and 1, 254 rebels.

Earlier Friday, the LTTE, in a statement faxed here from its London office, alleged that the Sri Lankan air force had [words indistinct] on Wednesday, but gave no indication of any casualties.

The statement said planes conducted "repeated bombing raids in the built-up areas of Urumpirai and Kopai" on the outskirts of the town, and added that simultaneously the army carried out intense shelling of the areas.

"No information as regards casualties and damage to property is available yet," it said.

On Tuesday, Deputy Defence Minister Anuruddha Ratwatte, who is leading the military drive against the LTTE, said the guerrillas would be crushed in Jaffna "very soon."

He said the military could take Jaffna in two days, but were advancing cautiously to minimise civilian casualties.

"We are deliberately moving slowly because we don't want to destroy eveything on our way," he said, after vowing in parliament here to "liberate" the minority Tamil community from the LTTE.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"We hope the Tigers would be crushed long before the New Year," he added.

Operation Riviresa aims to seize the 900-square-mile (2,340-square-kilometre) peninsula from the LTTE, which is fighting for a homeland called Eelam in Sri Lanka's northeast.

More than 50,000 people have died in the Eelam campaign over the past two decades.

Fifty Tamil 'Guerrillas' Said Killed

BK1011120495 Hong Kong AFP in English 1146 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (AFP) — At least 50 Tamil Tiger guerrillas were killed Friday [11 November] in renewed fighting in Sri Lanka, where government troops launched a massive offensive in the northern peninsula of Jaffna after a week-long lull, military officials said.

"We believe at least 50 terrorists have died so far," a military official said. He gave no figures of casualties among government troops pressing the offensive that seeks to wrest Jaffna town, the LTTE stronghold.

The LTTE is fighting for a homeland called Eelam in Sri Lanka's northeast.

AFP Reports on 'Heavy Casualties'

BK1011125695 Hong Kong AFP in English 1247 GMT 10 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (AFP) — At least 78 Tamil Tiger guerrillas and 13 army troops were killed Friday [11 November] in fierce fighting in Sri Lanka's north as troops resumed a military offensive after a week-long lull, officials here said.

Military sources said one army officer and 12 soldiers and 78 guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had been slain in the fighting in the northern peninsula of Jaffna.

Some 200 guerrillas and 70 soldiers were injured, the sources said.

"Both sides have taken heavy casualties," a military official said.

Thousands of Sri Lankan troops resumed a major offensive on the LTTE stronghold of Jaffna at dawn Friday, ending a week-long lull and sparking heavy fighting for the control of the sprawling peninsula.

Jaffna town is the capital of a de facto independent state the LTTE has had in Sri Lanka's north since 1990. The LTTE is fighting for a homeland across Sri Lanka's northeast.

The protracted campaign has claimed more than 50,000 lives in the past two decades.

Government Takes 2 Towns Near Jaffna

BK1111121395 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thousands of government troops engaged in Operation Riviresa [Sunshine] advanced two kilometers more toward the Tiger bastion of Jaffna yesterday capturing the towns of Urumpirai and Kopai North and killing 78 terrorists. The operational headquarters of the Ministry of Defense said more than 200 terrorists have been injured during yesterday's fighting which also left one officer and 12 soldiers dead and 77 wounded. The heavily armed soldiers backed by armor, artillery, and air cover had been consolidating their position since the last major battle on November 2. They began their push from their newly-captured positions beyond Neerveli at first flight and encountered terrorist resistance in Urumpirai and Kopai North areas, it said. The Tigers resisted the advance initially but fled later in the direction of Jaffna and Kaitadi leaving many of their dead behind. One injured terrorist was captured along with a Rocket Propelled Grenade [RPG], an RPG launcher the [word indistinct]. Troops captured Urumpirai and Kopai North around 0200 PM. Soldiers moving along the Urelu-Urumpirai- Jaffna road cleared many terrorist bunkers along the road between Urumpirai and Kopai North.

The operational headquarters said troops are consolidating their positions South of Urumpirai and Kopai North. The operation continues. The Army launched a massive offensive on October 17 to wrest the Jaffna town from the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. Troops halted the advance just 4.5 km away from the city limits of Jaffna town on November 2. They dug in consolidating their gains since then. More that 1,300 Tigers have been killed by the security forces since the offensive began. LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran after publicly admitting their inability to take on the might of the advancing troops has already moved his headquarters to Kilinochchi on the mainland, the reports added.

The CID [Criminal Investigation Department] busted a huge fund collecting racket yesterday by an organization allegedly helping the northern terrorists when they seized photographic evidence of explosives from a residence in Kottahena. This follows the arrest of two Roman Catholic priests at a check point of Talekulam, Vavuniya while on their way to Jaffna with over 24 million rupees in cash and several banned items in their possession. Among the photographs found in the Kottahena house were those of mortars, solar cells,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

explosives, and communication sets. Investigations said the solar cells were used by the LTTE terrorists to charge car battery. The CID has also impounded three foreign bank accounts maintained by the two priests — (Father Sabramati Jabelison) and (Father Mariampillai Immanuel Pious) under the Prevention of Terrorist Act, the PTA. According to investigations only the two priests now in custody could draw on their foreign bank accounts. The accounts had been maintained on the code numbers, the CID added. The CID said the priests were unable to give any plausible reasons for carrying such a big amount of cash to Jaffna. They have been given the money by foreign NGOs [nongovernment organizations] to help refugees in the North. The CID said the money was of no use in Jaffna as goods needed for the refugees could not be purchased there.

Troops Said Continuing Jaffna Advance

BK1211114195 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Troops of Operation Riviresa [Sunshine] continued their advance toward Jaffna yesterday. LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists attacked advancing columns of troops on Friday [11 November] at Urumpirai and North Kopai with small arms, machine guns, and mortars. Several soldiers were injured. The security forces, supported by armor and artillery, overcame the attack causing heavy casualties to the terrorists. The Operational Headquarters of the Defense Ministry said that one officer and 31 soldiers were killed in action and 23 soldiers were injured. The LTTE attempted to attack the troops manning forward defenses last night with small arms and mortars. These attacks were also successfully repulsed by the troops and the terrorists fled leaving behind their dead and wounded. The Operational Headquarters says that LTTE mortar positions were effectively engaged by the Army's artillery. Two soldiers died in this operation and nine others were wounded. Ground troops estimate that at least 100 terrorists were severely injured during the fighting. Meanwhile, troops recovered a time bomb planted by the terrorists near the EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students] office in Batticaloa town. It was defused by the Army bomb disposal team. In Mullaitivu, LTTE terrorists confronted a security forces foot patrol with hand grenades and small arms early yesterday. Troops retaliated and the terrorists fled the area. Three soldiers were injured. In another incident at Akkaraippattu in the Amparai District, terrorists shot dead a woman and three men. The motive behind the killing is not known.

'Heavy Fighting' Reported

BK1311112995 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Heavy fighting raged in Jaffna yesterday with troops of Operation Riviresa [Sunshine] continuing their march toward the town. Military sources said that the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] launched a predawn attack on advancing columns of soldiers, but the troops retaliated with superior firepower. A military spokesman said that the troops backed by the Air Force and artillery continued their forward march for the third straight day after resuming the operation. The spokesman said that they are already on the outskirts of Jaffna Town and it is just a matter of time before the troops move in. Preparations for further operations are already in progress. Military officials expect the LTTE to put up stiff resistance in the days to come. Fifteen soldiers died in the battle since yesterday. Military sources said that 60 terrorists were killed during the operation.

Tamil civilians in the south of Sri Lanka are giving unstinted cooperation to the civil defense units in maintaining peace in their respective areas. This will help the security forces to concentrate on their war against the terrorists in the north, said Civil Defense Force Commander C.O.A. (Dhirekse) yesterday. He said Tamils constituted a majority membership in civil defense units in areas which have bigger concentration of Tamils and they willingly assist the police in peacekeeping exercises, such as light patrolling. He said all police stations have, meanwhile, mounted night patrols in their areas assisted by members of civil defense units.

Troops Said To Consolidate Positions

BK1311050795 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 13 Nov 95

[Unattributed report — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After two days of fighting since thousands of government troops resumed Operation Riviresa [Sunshine] last Friday [10 November], 170 Tigers have been killed, 110 on Friday and 60 on Saturday.

Official reports said troops consolidated their positions in their advance towards the Tiger bastion of Jaffna on Sunday. A senior military spokesman said the troops had further advanced two kilometres south of Urumpirai and cleared the area. "Preparations and reconnaissance for further action are in progress," he said.

Saturday's fighting claimed the lives of 15 soldiers. One officer and 21 soldiers sustained injuries.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Troops also recovered 17 bodies of Tamil rebels of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) on Saturday. "Several other bodies were observed by troops ahead of their presently held locations," the spokesman said.

Soldiers have also seized Tiger firearms including locally manufactured mortar launchers, small arms and anti-tank mines. They also found parts of naval vessels destroyed by the LTTE.

Several bodies of rebels were buried by the army as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been unable to contact LTTE representatives to hand over the bodies.

The heavily armed soldiers, backed by armour, artillery and air cover, had been consolidating their positions since the last major battle at Neerveli on November 2. They re-commenced their push on Friday and captured the strategic towns of Urumpirai and Kopai North on the same day.

A senior military officer said the Tigers resisted the advancing troops at several places on Saturday, including the area south-east of Kopai junction. "With superior firepower, the infantry men overcame the Tigers' attempts to delay the advance. Soldiers inflicted heavy casualties on the rebels".

Soldiers were clearing several underground complexes in the area, 2.5 Km from Jaffna city limits. A large quantity of LTTE documents had been found inside these complexes.

The army launched the massive offensive on October 17, when thousands of soldiers broke out of their Forward Defended Localities outside the Palaly military complex in the Jaffna peninsula and moved southwards towards Jaffna city.

More than 1,400 Tigers have been killed by security forces since the offensive began. Security forces have lost 319 men.

The military has described the offensive as a "fight to the finish". Defence sources in Colombo said the operation is progressing extremely well. "We are already knocking on the doors of Jaffna city," they said. Heavy fighting is expected ahead on the route leading to Jaffna city.

In another incident, LTTE cadres killed eight commandos including one inspector of the police Special Task Force (STF) at Vellaveli in Batticaloa district, Eastern Sri Lanka, on Saturday.

LTTE's Naval Base Town Said Shelled

BK1311123495 Hong Kong AFP in English 1224 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] COLOMBO, Nov 13 (AFP) — Troops pursuing a military offensive in northern Sri Lanka have shelled the birthplace of Tamil Tiger guerrilla supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran, the rebels said Monday [13 November].

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said the advancing army heavily shelled Velvettithurai, Prabhakaran's hometown, and the adjoining port of Point Pedro on Sunday, damaging more than 50 houses.

Velvettithurai is also the main base of the "Sea Tigers," the LTTE's naval arm, which in recent years has dealt deadly blows to the tiny Sri Lankan navy across the island's northeastern coast.

The statement said a ship of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had been unloading relief supplies for thousands of Tamils displaced by the fighting at Point Pedro when the shelling started.

"The port workers took shelter in fear of their lives," the statement faxed from the LTTE's London said. "Shells also landed next to the ICRC offices (in the town)."

Military and ICRC officials here could not be reached for comment.

Thousands of Sri Lankan troops are pursuing a major offensive, launched on October 17, that aims to wrest the northern peninsula from the Tamil Tigers, who have ruled the region since 1990.

The army says it is poised to capture the LTTE citadel of Jaffna town.

LTTE Says Women's Wing Leader Killed

BK1311044495 Hong Kong AFP in English 0313 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 13 (AFP) — The Tamil Tiger guerrillas Monday [13 November] announced that their women's wing leader had been killed by security forces during an ongoing military offensive in northern Sri Lanka.

The separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said the guerrilla known as Akila was killed two weeks ago while she was resisting an army advance on the rebel stronghold of Jaffna.

Akila, who is the third person accused in the slaying of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, had been posthumously promoted to the rank of Tiger Lieutenant

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Colonel, the LTTE statement sent here from its London office said.

"She was also a veteran of several battles," the statement said adding that she provided invaluable assistance to the development of the LTTE women's wing.

Sri Lankan security forces are currently keeping up a major offensive against the LTTE in a bid to capture the Jaffna peninsula which had been run as a de facto separate state by the rebels in the past five years.

Colombo Explosions Reported; Police Launch Search

BK1111120595 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Two explosions were reported this morning from Kumpanevitya in Colombo. The latest information revealed that about eight persons have died. Fifteen who were injured have been admitted to the hospital. The first bomb exploded at around 0950 AM near the entrance to the Army Headquarters. A person who had strapped a bomb onto his body had walked toward Army Headquarters, when he was inspected he had exploded the bomb. In this incident, a military, a police officer, and two army soldiers were injured. At around 1015 in the morning, the second bomb exploded opposite the Kumpanevitya Railway Station. This too has been exploded by a suicide bomber. The upper part of the bodies of these two suicide bombers were maimed. The armed forces and the police are jointly launching a search operation in the area.

Further on Suicide Bomb Attacks

BK1211112595 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Fourteen civilians and three security forces personnel were killed and 59 persons were injured yesterday, when two LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] suicide bombers blew themselves up during an abortive attack on the Army Headquarters complex in Colombo. Pandemonium broke out in Central Colombo and Army and police units immediately blocked off several roads in the vicinity and conducted search operations to track down any accomplices of the two dead bombers fleeing out of the failed guerrilla strike on the nerve center of the country's defense forces. Security has been tightened throughout the Greater Colombo region. Military units have been in to help ensure security in the city following the abortive attack. Police believe that the body of a woman found at one explosion site is that of an accomplice. The blasts were relatively small. Police say that they were caused by plastic explosives struck to the bodies of the two suicide bombers. Eye witnesses say that after the first explosion at the entrance to the Army Headquarters complex, shooting had broken out at the road junction there. Early reports of firing from the upper floors of the adjoining Taj Samudra Hotel were later denied by the police who searched the large luxury hotel. Amid the pandemonium in the area following the first explosion, a second fleeing suicide bomber blew himself up in the crowd opposite a nearly railway station. Several persons, including one army soldier and a sergeant, died in this blast in which a large number of people suffered serious and minor injuries.

The Defense Ministry said in a communique that an unidentified person had attempted to gain entry at the main entrance of the Army Headquarters yesterday morning. However, on being questioned by the military police at the check point, he had attempted to force his way into the headquarters compound. The military policeman drew his pistol to shoot this person when the unidentified person suspected to be an LTTE suicide bomber blew himself up. According to police sources, one military policeman was killed and two soldiers were injured in the blast at the headquarters gate. In the melee, a number of shots have been fired by alerted security forces personnel.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication produced by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS). Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

FBIS collects, translates, disseminates, and analyzes foreign open-source information on behalf of the U.S. Government. Its publications may contain copyrighted material. ***Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.***

— Bracketed indicators before the first sentence of each item describe the way in which the material was processed by FBIS.

— Headlines and all bracketed explanatory notes are supplied by FBIS.

— Personal and place names are rendered in accordance with the decisions of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as adapted by FBIS. Unverified names in radio and television material appear in parentheses and are spelled phonetically; words and phrases in parentheses preceded by a question mark are unclear in the original and deduced from context.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

U.S. Government Customers

For a list of FBIS products, to subscribe to an FBIS publication, or to indicate a change of address contact:

FBIS
P.O. Box 2604
Washington, DC 20013-2604
Telephone: (202) 338-6735
FAX: (703) 733-6042

Non-Government Customers

Subscriptions are available from the National Technical Information Service:

NTIS
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
Telephone: (703) 487-4630
FAX: (703) 321-8547

New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.